

*Why may not a Woman be wise and virtuous,
as the Men are courageous?*

B^o E L I N D A ;
OR,
H A P P I N E S S
T H E

Reward of Constancy.

MANNIFESTED.

In a SERIES of the most INTERESTING
and SURPRIZING EVENTS
ever yet made publick.

*When Virtue and Modesty enlighten her
Charmes, the Lustre of a beautifull Wo-
man is brighter than the Stars of
Heaven, and the Influence of her Power
it is in vain to resist.*

Oeconomy of human Life.

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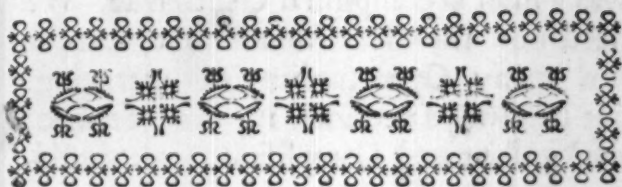


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BELINDA, &c.

CHAP. I

*Containing a Description of some of the
principle Persons whose Adventures are
the subject of the following History.*

UELLIN was descended of a
good Family, and had an E-
state of about 500*l.* per An-
num, all lying together near
Swansey, a Seaport in Glamorganshire in
Wales, on which he lived comfortably
and nobly, doing much Good, a Man
whose generous Temper, and good
Sense, made him beloved by all who
knew him: He had been bred at the
University, travelled in his Youth, was
a member of Parliament: and in fine,

was a most accomplish'd Gentleman. We need not therefore doubt but that he had many Opportunities of marrying, but he always declined it, and seemed, tho' gallant and Complaisant, yet indifferent to the Fair Sex: He was upwards of thirty Years of Age, and wisely preferred a Country Retirement before noisy Courts and Business: His Person was handsome and his Conversation agreeable. One Evening in the Month of *May*, in the Year 1717, this Gentleman was walking alone by the Sea-side to take the Air, and passing over some little Hills, came at last to the Top of one much higher then the rest, where standing still to view the lovely Prospect of the neighbouring Fields and valleys, which were now in their greatest Pride, adorned with lovely Flowers and curious Greens, he saw just opposite another Hill, and in the Side of it a Door open, before which there stood a Damsel of such exquisite Beauty and Shape, and in a Habit so odd and uncommon, that he was both extremely surprized and charmed: He stood still not daring to approach her

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her, lest he should surprize and make her fly from him. She seem'd very thoughtful, but at length looking up she saw him, and immediately retired, shutting the door after her. He continued musing for some Time, and having well observed the Place, return'd home, resolving to go back thither early the next Morning: He pass'd that Night without once closing his Eyes, such strong Impressions had her Beauty made in his Soul, that he thought of nothing but the bright Vision. At Break of Day he rose, forbidding his Servants to attend him, and hastened into the Valley, where he sought for a convenient Place to conceal himself, at some little Distance from the Cave, resolving to watch the Opening of the Door, and observe what pass'd there. Having found a low Tree he climbed up into it, and did not wait long before he saw a Lad come forth with a Basket on his Arm; he went towards the Town, as if he were going to fetch Provisions: Soon after a Maid Servant came out with a Broom, and swept before the Door of the Cave,
dressed

dressed in a red petticoat, a *French* Jacket
 and Coif; and some time after she
 went in, he saw a Lady, in a rich
 Night-Gown and Night-Cloaths, some-
 thing in Years but very Beautifull, at-
 tended by the young Virgin he had seen
 the Day before, who was drest in a cher-
 ry-colour Silk Pettycoat, flowered with
 Silver, a white Sattin Waistcoat, tied
 down the Breast with red and Silver Rib-
 bons, her Neck was bare, and her Hair
 was carelessly braided, and tied up in
 green Sattin Ribbon: Upon her Head
 she wore a fine Straw Hat, lined with
 green and Gold: She appeared to be a-
 bout fourteen, was fair as *Diana*; her
 Eyes were black, her Face Oval, her
 Shape incomparable; she wore a Sweet-
 ness and Modesty in her Look, that
 would have charmed the coldest Breast,
 and checked the boldest Lover from pro-
 ceeding farther than he ought, Their
 Habits, Speech, and Mein, spoke them
 Persons of Quality and Foreigners.

‘Come, my dear Child,’ said the
 Lady, ‘let us take a Walk over the
 Hills

‘ Hills this fine Morning, it is all the
‘ Diversion our sad Circumstances permits
‘ us to take.’ Why, Madam, answered
the fair *Belinda*, for so the young Lady
was called, ‘ Can there be any Pleasures
‘ in the World exceeding those, sweet
‘ Retirement gives us? How often have
‘ you recounted to me the Miseries and
‘ Dangers that attend a Life led in
‘ crowded Cities and noisy Courts: Had
‘ you never left the quiet Convent for
‘ the World, or changed your Virgin
‘ State, how happy had you been? Our
‘ homely Cell, indeed, is nothing like
‘ the splendid Palaces I have heard you
‘ talk of; but then we are not half so
‘ much exposed to those Temptations
‘ you have so often warned me of: No-
‘ thing I dread but only this; should
‘ Providence take you from me, I should
‘ be so sad and lonely, that I fear my
‘ Heart would break.’ ‘ My Child,’
the Lady answered, ‘ Our Lives are in
‘ the Almighty’s Hands, and we must
‘ still submit; you cannot be wretched
‘ whilst you are Innocent, and I still
‘ hope your Father lives; that we shall
‘ leave

' leave this dismal Place, return to
 ' France, and live to see you happily
 ' disposed of in the World. It is now
 ' fourteen Years and Six Months since
 ' you have liv'd securely in this lonely
 ' Mansion, a tedious Time to me; you
 ' know I dare not return to France
 ' a Second Time, having been betrayed,
 ' and with much difficulty escaped from
 ' my Enemies Hands; I want only some
 ' faithfull Friend that could go thither
 ' for me.' By this Time they were past
 on that Mr. *Luellin* could hear no more:
 He came down from the Tree, and fol-
 lowing gently after, soon overtook the
 Ladies, and thus address'd himself to them
 ' Ladies, said he, be not surpris'd, I am
 ' a Gentleman of this Place, one who
 ' am able to serve you, my Estate and
 ' Heart are at your Command; sure I
 ' have been very unfortuate in being so
 ' long ignorant of my being near you: I
 ' have overheard your Discourse, and am
 ' come to offer myself and Fortune to
 ' you.' Here he threw himself at *Belin-*
dia's Feet. ' To this fair Creature, said
 ' he, I dedicate the Remainder of my
 ' Life;

‘ Life; I, and all that is mine; shall be
‘ devoted to thy Service. Speak, love-
‘ ly Maid, said he, whose Eyes have rob-
‘ bed me of a Heart, may I presume to
‘ hope?’ *Belinda*, much confused, look-
ed first on him, then on her Mother, re-
maining silent, seized with a Passion she
had been a Stranger to till that Moment.
The Lady well perceiving it, answered
thus, ‘ Rise, Sir, since Heaven, who
‘ has till now preserved us from all dis-
‘ covery, has permitted you to see us,
‘ and as I conjecture more than this Time,
‘ so that it would be in vain to forbid
‘ your coming where we are: I consent
‘ to accept of the Friendship which you
‘ offer, not doubting but you are what
‘ you appear, a Person of Birth and For-
‘ tune.’ He bowed, and taking *Belinda*
by the Hand, said, Madam, ‘ you
‘ shall find me all you can wish; let me
‘ now have the Honour to wait on you
‘ home to your Cell, and there we may
‘ be more at liberty to talk.’ The La-
dies consenting, they went Back toge-
ther to the Cave, the Inside of which
was most surprising to Mr. *Luellin*: There
he

10 BELINDA; or, Happiness

he found five Rooms so contrived, and so richly furnished, that he stood amazed.

‘ In the Name of Wonder, said he, Ladies, by what Inchantment or Art was

‘ this Place contrived; from whence is

‘ this Light conveyed that illuminates

‘ it, which seems without, all covered

‘ over with Earth, and is within so light

‘ and agreeable?’ The Lady answered.

‘ When you have heard our Story you

‘ will be satisfied in all. At our land-

‘ ing on this Place, we found a Cave,

‘ or little Cell, but not like what it is

‘ now; the Seamen belonging to the

‘ Ship, that brought us here, contrived

‘ and made it what you see; the Da-

‘ mask Beds, Scrutors, and all the Fur-

‘ niture you find here, I brought with

‘ me from *France*. The Light is from a

‘ Sky-Light on the Top of the Hill, co-

‘ vered with a Shutter and a Grate,

‘ when we think fit to shut Day out: A

‘ Pair of Stairs leads to it in the Midst

‘ of the Rooms which you see lie in a

‘ Round. The Building is contrived an

‘ Oval, part lined with Boards, to de-

‘ fend the Damps from us; but yet in

‘ Winter

‘ Winter it is no pleasant Dwelling.’
‘ Madam said he, I have a neat and more
‘ convenient House, that shall be proud
‘ to receive you, and I shall not cease to
‘ importune you till you grace it with
‘ your Presence; I shall therefore deny
‘ myself the Pleasure of staying with
‘ you longer, and fetch my Coach to
‘ bear you thither.’ At these Words he
took leave.

When he was gone, the old Lady
looking on her Daughter, spake thus to
her. ‘ Now my dear Child, what do
‘ you think, Providence provides us here
‘ at last a Friend, and, if I am not de-
‘ ceived, a Husband for you: What
‘ think you of this Gentleman?’ Alas!
Madam, she replied, ‘ I know not what
‘ to think, I wish I had not seen him;
‘ for if he proves decietful, as Men
‘ you say, often do, sure I should be un-
‘ happy.’ They continued this Discourse,
breakfasted, and before Noon saw Mr.
Luellin return with a Coach, and Servants,
to fetch them to his House to Dinner;
he wisely left his Coach on the farther
Hill,

Hill, and came alone to them: His Importunities were to great they could not refuse him; so staying only to dress, they went with him. The Ladies Habits, though not made after the *Engliss* Mode, were rich, and such as had never been seen in that Part of *Wales*, being what the Lady brought from *France* with her. When arrived at his House, they were entertained in a Manner suiting the noble Nature and Hospitality of the ancient *Britons*; nothing was wanting to shew the Master's Respect. How much the young Lady was surpris'd it is almost impossible to imagine, since she had never been abroad before, or conversed with any Stranger, after Dinner Mr. *Luellin* carried the Ladies into a Drawing-Room, where the Pictures hung of his Ancestors: Stately, and so furnished was the Place it might have taken up some Hours to have view'd it with Delight: Here Wines, Sweetmeats, and Tea, were placed, and the Servants withdrawing, he seated the Ladies and himself, and then said, 'Now, Madam, 'addressing himself to the Mother,

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‘ may I without offending, beg to know
‘ your Quality, the Adventures of
‘ your Life, and the true Cause of
‘ your dwelling in the obscure Place I
‘ found you.’ “ Yes answered she,
“ your Curiosity is just, and I readily
“ agree to all you ask.” Then she
began the Narrative of her life in this
Manner.

C H A P. II.

*Containing so much of the History of
Madam de Rochefoucault as pre-
ceded her Marriage.*

I Was born in *Normandy*; my Father
being a *French* Nobleman, he was
the Count de *Rochefoucault*: My Mother
was an *English* Lady, who came over
with the unfortunate Queen of *England*,
Wife to King *James II.* to whom my
Mother’s Father was a loyal and faithful
Servant, though a Protestant: He was
a Lord, but could give no Fortune with
my Mother but her Beauty and Virtue.

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My Father being at Court at *Paris*, and visiting at *St. Germain's*, there saw, and fell in Love with her, in the End married, and brought her to his Seat at *Normandy*. I was born the first Year of their Marriage, and by my Mother secretly bred up a Protestant; we talking together in *English*, which she taught me; for which Reason I was not much esteemed by my Father's Family when it came to be known.

When I was ten Years of Age it pleased God to take away my dear Mother, whose Virtues had made her dear to all that knew her; but my Father's Grief was such, that it overcame his Reason, and in a short Time threw him into a deep Consumption, of which, to my unutterable Grief, he died, leaving me, his only Child, an Orphan of but twelve Years of Age. He left me a great Fortune in Lands and Money, in the Care of three Catholick Noblemen, his own Relations, whom he strictly enjoined to take Care of me, and never force my Inclinations in any Thing, or force me into a Convent; but no sooner was

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was he laid in the Ground, but they shut me up in a Monastery of poor *Clarrers*, as they pretended, to have me convinced of my Errors in Religion, but, in Truth, with Design to wrong me of my Fortune. Here I continued a Year, being very kindly treated by the Abbess and Society, who were most of them Ladies born of good Families, and perfectly well bred; amongst these was one whose Name was *Katherine*, Daughter to Monsieur de *Maintenon*, the Governor of *Normandy*. With this young Lady I contracted a strict Friendship; to her I opened the Secrets of my heart, and we loved each other so tenderly, that we were inseparable: We lay together, and she had told me all her griefs, confessing she had love and still loved a young Gentleman who was a Colonel and a Relation of her Mother's; which coming to her Father's Knowledge, who was related to the King, and a Man very ambitious, had so offended him that he had sent him away to the Army, and forced her into this Convent. This Lady had an only Brother, who was

called the Count *de Beaumont*; who was young, gay; handsome, witty; and in fine, every Thing that is charming: His Soul was noble, and full of Truth and Honour. This young Lord came frequently to the Grates to visit his Sister, whom he tenderly loved: By this Means he saw and loved me; his Conversation charmed me, and I quickly found I more than liked him: In fine, he declared his Passion, and I at last yielded to fly with him and marry him, on Condition that his Sister should go with me. Nothing now was wanting but an Opportunity to effect our Design, which we did in a few Days, in the Manner following. The Count went to the Gardener who used to look after the Monastery Garden, and with Gold bribed him to get another Key made to the Garden Gate, with which my Lover entered when he pleased, concealing himself in one of the Arbours till my Companion and I came to walk. We soon agreed on the Day and Hour when we should escape. The Evening of the appointed Day he brought a Chaise, with
fix

six Horses, to a Village near the Convent, and in the Dusk came in it to the Garden Gate, which was the Hour we used to be at Vespers. I and Sister *Katharine* feigning ourselves not well all that Day, got leave to be absent from Prayers, this gave us an Opportunity of getting to the Count, who received us with Transport: He carried us in two Hours Time to the Chevalier *de Alanfon's* House, which was twenty Miles off; there we alighted, and were received gladly. This Gentleman was Father to the Colonel whom Lady *Katharine* loved, and therefore was glad of this Opportunity to oblige the Count *de Beaumont*, hoping it would be a Means to procure his Son's Happiness, who was his only Child, and whom he loved excessively. The Count, having also promised me to consent to his Sister's Marriage, had made Choice of this Gentleman as most proper to assist us in the Affair. Here having changed our Habits, and put on others, which the Count had provided for us, we were entertained with a splendid Supper; after which the Count

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pressed me in so passionate a Manner, to make him happy, by marrying him that Night, that I condescended to his Request, and the Chevalier's Chaplain made us one. Next Morning *de Alanson* sent away a Servant Express to the Army, to give his Son Notice of Lady *Katharine's* Escape, and that he should come immediately home incognito to marry her. The Count *de Beaumont* that Evening returned home to see how our Flight was taken, and how his Father resented it, promising a speedy Return to us; which he soon did, for the next Morning he came back, and acquainted me with all that passed. 'My Father, said he, no sooner saw me enter the Room, where he was sitting with some Nobleman at Ombre, but he rose, looking fiercely upon me, and addressing himself, to them, said, Messieurs, I beg Leave to withdraw with my Son for a few Minutes. I followed him into his Closet, where we no sooner entered, but he shut the Door, and said, Son, I am highly troubled to think that you have done a Deed so unadvised, so rash, and I fear ruinous to

‘ yourself, and disgustful to me; are
‘ you married without my Consent, and
‘ to a Heretick? What will the King
‘ say? Could you not find a Wife of
‘ your own Faith and Family, but you
‘ must rob a Convent for one? Where is
‘ your deluded Sister? Have you match-
‘ ed her too? Alas! alas! my Son, what
‘ Grief and Confusion will you bring
‘ upon us? My Surprize was so great
‘ to see my Father so calm, that I could
‘ scarce answer; but throwing myself
‘ at his Feet embracing his Knees, I
‘ implored his Pardon, and his Blessing,
‘ saying, My honoured Lord and Father,
‘ the Lady I have married is equal both
‘ in Birth and Fortune; virtuous, young,
‘ and will, I doubt not, be every Thing
‘ you can desire; let not her Religion,
‘ which is not in her, a Fault, but the
‘ Misfortune of her Education, make
‘ you prejudiced against her, I shall
‘ soon prevail with her to be what I am,
‘ if not, our Children shall be bred as
‘ you desire: she was no Nun, but
‘ wrongtully detained there by her
‘ Guardians, who will no sooner hear
‘ who

' who she belongs to, but they will re-
 ' sign her Fortune. And now, my Lord,
 ' compleate my Happiness, permit me
 ' to bring my Bride to pay her Duty,
 ' and receive my Sister, who, both by
 ' Promise and Affection, is engaged to
 ' the brave *Allan*, a young Gentle-
 ' man, whose Worth excells all Titles,
 ' who will be to you another Son, and
 ' make her happy. Rise Son, said my
 ' Father, I will endeavour to be easy.
 ' At these Words he took me up, and
 ' opening the Door, returned to the
 ' Company, I following; he said nothing
 ' of my Marriage to them. In the
 ' Morning I paid my Duty to him in
 ' his Chamber, and told him I was going
 ' to fetch you to him, he bid me go.
 This News overjoyed us all; and the
 Chevalier, my Sister *Katharine*, the Count
de Beaumont, and I, taking Coach, went
 to the Castle, where my Father-in-law
 received us with such Goodness, and
 with an Air so obliging, that I was a-
 mazed. An Apartment was immediate-
 ly assigned me, the same my Mother-
 in-law had in her Life-time. Our Wed-
 ding

ding was kept as became our Quality, and in a few Days I had the Satisfaction to see my dear Sister, whom I tenderly loved, made happy as myself, being married to the Colonel, who being come Post to his Father's, was by him brought to us, and married in my Father's Presence with full Consent. And now we appeared to be the happiest Family in the World: My Guardians no sooner heard of my Marriage, but they waited on my Father and Husband, and in a few Days delivered my Fortune into their Hands.

C H A P. III.

Being a Continuation of the History of Madam de Rochefoucault, till her Separation from her Husband, and her lanoing in Wales.

FOR some Months my Father treated me with all the Kindness imaginable: When it began to be whispered that I was with Child: Then my
Sister

Sister began to importune me, when we were alone, to change my Religion, which I evaded to answer to, as much as possible, beginning to suspect that she was put upon so doing; and this made me very thoughtful, and apprehensive of some Misfortune.

One Morning my Father-in-law entered my Chamber, and with a very serious Air began to talk to me in this Manner: ‘ Daughter, I have been very indulgent to you, and do now assure you, that I love you extremely, of which I can give you no better Proof than what I am going to propose to you: You have been bred in Error, your Religion is false: I have provided those that will instruct you in the Truth, and I expect that you hearken to them, and embrace it; and if you mean to live happy, and be dear to me, you must be a *Roman Catholick*, otherwise the King has commanded me to part my Son and you. I have said enough, I hope, to convince you that it is absolutely necessary that you comply with my Desires’ At these Words he

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he went out of the Chamber, leaving me in great Confusion and Disorder. At this Instant my dear Lord came in from walking in the Park, and was much surprized to find me in Tears; he clasped me in his Arms, and pressed me earnestly to tell him what was the Cause of my Grief. Forbear, dearest, said I, do not ask many Questions, we must be parted, and be wretched, the King will not permit you to caress a poor Orphan, and sleep in the Arms of a Heretick; I must change my Faith, or lose all that is dear to me upon Earth: Hard Choice! He wiped away my Tears, kissed and comforted me all he was able, using all his Eloquence to persuade me to comply; and I must confess it was more difficult to me to refuse him, than all the World, not Racks, nor Flames, could move my Soul so much as one of those tender Things he said to me. And now I was daily visited by learned Priests, and such who, as Relations or Friends, thought themselves obliged to assist in my Conversion; but having been educated in an intire Abhorrence of the Church

Church of *Rome*, I gave little heed to their Arguments, and resolved to continue firm to the Opinion I had been bred in, which they soon discovered, and took my Silence for Obstinacy: with which acquainting my Father, they so wrought with him, that he grew to hate me, and believed nothing could be done with me whilst my Lord was present: He therefore resolved to part us, hoping by this means to shock my Resolution, and make me yield to his Desires. In order to this, he procures a Commission for a Regiment of Horse for the Count his Son, with a Letter from the King, commanding him to repair to his Command immediately: His Father delivered it to him, telling him withall, that he had provided him an Equipage, and all things suiting his Quality, and that he must not fail to be ready by the next Morning to be gone.

This News was, as you may imagine, like a Sentence of Death to us both: As for my Part, fearing to declare my Grief, least it should encrease the Count's, I remained silent, and restrained all but
my

my Tears, which flowed incessantly. This sight so moved my Lord, that at last he resolved to expose himself both to the King's and his Father's Displeasure, rather than leave me; but upon Reflection, I dreaded the Consequence so much of so rash an Action, that I, proposed an Expedient: 'My dear Lord,' said I, my Mother's Brother is in *England*, the Lord—who will no doubt 'gladly receive and take care of me; send me thither with Part of our Fortune, there I shall enjoy my Religion without Molestation, and be safe from all my Enemies, till you return, which Heaven grant may be soon, and to both our Comforts.' This Proposal he with much Reluctance agreed to, and the next Morning told his Father that he could not consent to part thence under seven Days, in which time he would take care to remove me out of *France*, being fully determined not to leave me in my Enemies Power, which the old Lord was forced to yield to, finding it was in vain to oppose him, and being glad that we should be separated so far

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asunder.

asunder. The Count *de Beaumont* was resolved to see *France* no more till his Father died, designing that I should go and meet him in *Flanders*, by the Way of *Holland*, so soon as I should have lain in; he therefore called in all the ready Money he could raise, which he turned into Gold, and borrowed some of his Friends, giving me Jewels and Money to the Value of fifty thousand Crowns: he hired a Vessel at *St. Maloes*, putting aboard of it all the rich Furniture of my Apartment, and all my Cloths and Linen; and at last my Sister, and he brought me aboard, my Father-in-law having first took leave of me, and again made me large Offers, if I would turn Catholick, and stay in *France*, which I modestly rejected; and the Wind being fair, in this fatal Vessel my dear Lord and I took leave of each other. And first I embraced my dear Sister, who took our Separation so heavily, that I believe it hastened her Death, which happened not long after; and then my Lord, with Eyes full of Tears, took me in his Arms, where he held me some time before he,
was

was able to speak, then said, ' Farewel,
' my dear *Belinda*, may Guardian An-
' gels shield you, and the dear Pledge
' you carry with you; may God defend
' you from the Danger of the Sea, and
' bring you safe to Land, and to my
' Arms again; judge by yourself what
' Pangs I feel, and spare to torture me
' by saying more.' I could not answer
him one Word, but fainted in his Arms:
my Sister urged him to be gone, saying it
would be wiser to depart, than to con-
tinue the tragic Scene; which he would
not do till I revived, and then I faintly
said, ' My Lord, farewel, remember we
' are Christians, born to part; let us as
' such support our Afflictions, and live
' in hope to meet again, if not here, yet
' in Heaven. Farewell.' He repeated
his Embraces, and at length yielded to
go. The Ship set sail for *England*, de-
signing to reach the Port of *London*; but
as we were at Sea, the Wind veer'd
about, and a dreadful Storm arose, and
with much Difficulty the ninth Day of
being at Sea, we made this Point of
Land, and in the Evening got ashore.

near the Cave where you found us; there we looked for some Place to secure ourselves and Goods in, and found this Cave, which doubtless had been contrived by some Hermit in antient Times, and was the Work of past Ages; it was all ruinous, and covered over with Weeds, but the Seamen soon cleaned and fitted it up as you see; I liked the Place for its Privacy, and resolved to tarry here till I could write to *London*, to my Uncle, who I very well knew and loved, he having been several times in *France*, to visit my Mother. The Captain of the Ship went to *Swansey*, brought Provisions, sent away my Letters, and in some Days we received an Answer, little to our Satisfaction. I trembled when I opened the Seal, seeing the Directions in a strange Hand, and found it was writ by a Gentleman who was something related, as it appeared, to my Uncle; who receiving my Letter, answered it, informing me my Uncle was long since dead in *Scotland*, being forced to fly *England*, all his Estate being seized by the Government on Account of his Loyalty

to

to King *James*, and carrying on Designs for his Service; therefore he advised me to return to *France*, and not to venture to come to *London*. Upon this News, I resolved to continue in the Cave with my two Servants, my Maid, and a Boy, whom I had brought from *France*, *Mirra* having been a Servant to my Mother, and a Native of *England*; the Boy *Philip* was preferred by my Uncle to my Mother's Service, when he last visited her in *France*; for which Reason I always took care of these Servants, and thought they would be most proper for my Service here, speaking the Language.

C H A P. IV

Containing the Birth of Belinda, and the Adventures of Madam de Rochefoucault in a vain Search of her Husband.

THE Captain having bought what he wanted, and repaired

his Vessel, set sail for *France* again, to give the Count *de Beaumont* an Account of all that happened to us; but to my great Misfortune, the Ship (as I have been since informed) foundered at Sea, so that my Lord could never be informed what was become of me. Here I was brought to bed of this Daughter by a Country Midwife *Philip* fetched from a Villiage hard by; and having in two Years no News from *France*, I resolved to venture back thither myself: So I took the Boy with me, leaving *Maria* with the Child, and in a small Vessel, which I found at *Swansey*, and hired to carry me over to *St. Maloes*, I got Passage, leaving *Philip* at *Swansey*, to return back to the Cave, he being only to fetch Provisions, and what the Maid and Child wanted.

At my landing at *St. Maloes* I went to a Friend of my Husband's, whose House we were at, at my leaving
France,

France, there I got a Man's Habit, and so disguised took a Post Chaise for the Chevalier *de Alanfon's*, where being safe arrived, I discovered myself, and was received with all Demonstrations of Friendship; and here I learned that my dear Sitter was dead of a Fever the Year I left *France*; that the Count *de Beaumont*, having the News of the Ship's being lost and hearing nothing of me, came home back from the Army to his Father's, and concluding me dead, fell into a deep Melancholy; at last quarrelled with his Father, resigned his Commission, quitted the *French Service*, and was gone for *Sweden*, where he had obtained the Command of a Regiment under the King of *Sweden*, who was in a War with the Czar of *Muscovy*, and that no News had been heard of him since, ' This, says the ' Chevalier, has so incensed your ' Father-in-law against you, Madam, ' whom he looks upon as the principal

‘ pal Cause of his great Misfortune,
‘ in losing the comfort of his Son’s
‘ Presence, that I would not for the
‘ World he should find you here, for
‘ I know not what his Passion would
‘ transport him to do; I therefore
‘ advise you to get back to St. *Maloes*
‘ as soon as possible, and return to
‘ *England*; I will do all that’s possi-
‘ ble to send Word to the Count of
‘ your Safety, and the Place of your
‘ Residence.’ After Supper I went
to Bed, very much distracted in my
Thoughts: the next Morning early I
set out again for St. *Maloes*; but at
Noon, entering into an Inn to refresh
myself, I was seized for a Spy, car-
ried before a Magistrate, who soon
perceived I was a Woman, and, in
fine, knew me, and immediately
confined me in his House, till he sent
to Mounſieur *de Maintenon*, who by
the next morning arrived at St. *Ma-
loes*, and coming into the Room
where I was, accosted me in the fol-
lowing

lowing Manner: ' So Madam, I
' think myself very happy in seeing
' you again in *France*, you have made
' me one of the most unfortunate
' Fathers in the World; I have by
' your Means lost an only Son; you
' fled hence for conscience, and I, to
' satisfy Justice, shall confine you
' here the rest of your Days.' He
gave me no time to answer, for I was
pinion'd, and put into his coach,
with four of his Servants to guard
me: Nor did they suffer me to rest,
or eat, for twenty four Hours, in
which time we stopt but twice to
change Horses. At length they
brought me to a ruinous old Castle,
near the Sea-side, where they left me
in the Hands of a Man, whose grim
Aspect spoke him a Goaler; this
Man, his Daughter, and Wife, were
all that dwelt in this dismal Place;
they drove me up into a Room that
was in the Top of an old Tower, and
there locked me in, like a wild Beast
in

in a Den: and here I sat down and reflected on my Condition.

Here Mr. *Luellin* interrupted the Lady, saying, Madam, thank Providence ' you are now here; and at ' Liberty; come, we will defer it to ' some other Time, to finish this ' dismal Story: Supper is upon the ' Table, let us eat and forget all past ' Sorrows, to-morrow I will beg to ' hear the rest.' So presenting her his Hand, he led her to the Table. After Supper the Ladies would have taken leave, and returned to the Cave; but he so importunately desired their Stay there, that they at length consented, and were lodged in an Apartment altogether suitable to their Quality.

C H A P. V.

*In which Mr. Luellin makes his first
Overtures to Belinda.*

IN the Morning the Ladies were
waked by a Concert of Musick,
playing under the Window; with
which the young Lady was much
delighted, having never heard any
thing so charming, or of that Nature
before. ‘ Madam, said she, what
‘ an agreeable Part of the World are
‘ we come into? why did you not
‘ sooner bring me into Company?
‘ what a ravishing thing is Society?
‘ for Heaven’s sake do not return to
‘ our unwholesome lonely Cave.
‘ We want not a Fortune to pay for
‘ all the Conveniences of Life, why
‘ should we fly Company? we are in
‘ a Nation where you have no Ene-
‘ mies to fear.’ The old Lady smil-
ed, saying, ‘ Alas! my Child, you
‘ little

‘ little know what you have to fear,
 ‘ and what mighty Cares attend a
 ‘ married Life; tho’ I hope God will
 ‘ in pity to my Sufferings, make
 ‘ you happy, and grant you a long
 ‘ Series of Years free from Misfor-
 ‘ tunes.’ At these Words a Maid
 Servant entered the Chamber with
Maria, who was come to attend her
 Ladies, and to inform them that
 Mr. *Luellin* begged the Honour of
 their Company to Breakfast: they
 dressed and went down into a Par-
 lour they had not seen the Day be-
 fore; and here Madam de *Roche-
 foucault* was surprized with the Sight
 of her Mother’s Picture, among
 others, which were all drawn by the
 Hands of celebrated Masters; ‘ My
 ‘ God, said she, how came this love-
 ‘ ly Picture here? Alas! my dear
 ‘ Mother, little, little did I think
 ‘ ever to see that Face again!’ Mr.
Luellin, ‘ interrupting her, said,
 ‘ Madam, that Lady was by my Fa-
 ‘ ther

‘ther courted, and beloved so dearly,
‘that when she left *England*, he
‘seemed to have lost all he valued,
‘fell sick, and soon after died; my
‘Mother having left him a Widow-
‘er, dying in Child-birth of me,
‘whom he left an Orphan about
‘three Years old. This melancholy
‘Account I have had of his Death,
‘but little thought I should have
‘seen a Daughter of that Lady’s, or
‘shared my Father’s Inclinations in
‘loving one descended from her.
‘Fair *Belindia*, said he, turning to
‘the young Lady, do not by a cruel
‘Absence kill me too.’ *Belindia*
blushed: ‘Believe me, said her
‘Mother, she is much inclined to
‘stay with you; and if all your Ac-
‘tions correspond with what we
‘have already seen, I shall never de-
‘fire to take her from you.’ At
these Words he bowed, saying;
‘May I be hated by Heaven and
‘you, and may she scorn me, when

‘ I cease to love, to honour, and
 ‘ take care of you and her, Madam,
 ‘ till now, I never loved, my Heart
 ‘ has been indifferent to all the Sex;
 ‘ but from the Moment I first looked
 ‘ on that Angel’s Face, where so
 ‘ much Innocence and Beauty shines,
 ‘ I have not asked a Blessing in which
 ‘ she was not comprehended; make
 ‘ her mine, and I have all I wish on
 ‘ Earth.’ Here Tea, Chocolate, and
 Coffee, was brought in, so they
 turned their Discourse.

After Breakfast they walked into
 the Gardens, and being come to a
 lovely Banqueting-House, they went
 into it, and sat down. Here Mr.
Luellin importuned the Lady to fi-
 nish the Story of her Misfortunes:
 ‘ Madam, said he, I left you in a
 ‘ dismal Place last Night, pray glad
 ‘ me with an Account of your De-
 ‘ liverance thence.’ I will, said she,
 so continued her Relation in this
 manner.

C H A P. VI.

*Relating Madam de Rochefoucault's
Confinement, on Account of her Re-
ligion; her Miraculous Escape; and
her Arrival in Wales.*

BEING left, as I before told you,
imprisoned, and alone, faint,
hungry, and bereft of all Comfort,
I did, as most People do, when
their own Prudence can help them
no farther; looked up to God, whose
Power can never be limitted, and
from whom only I could expect my
Deliverance: lifting up my Hands,
I cried, ‘ Now, my God help me;
‘ I am perfectly resigned to thy
‘ Will, accept my Submission, en-
‘ crease my Faith and Patience, in
‘ Proportion to the Evils thou hast
‘ decreed me to suffer; be to me
‘ Food, Liberty, and a Husband;
‘ and to my Child a Father and Mo-
‘ ther.’

‘ther.’ Here a Flood of Tears interrupted, I could speak no more; after which I grew calm, and found my Faith encrease, my Fears abate, and my Soul seemed armed for all Events. Thus, Sir, I experienced that great Truth, that we have nothing more to do, to be happy and secure from all the Miseries of Life, but to resign our Wills to the Divine Being; nor does Providence ever appear more conspicuously than on such Occasions. I fell into a Sweet Slumber, which in a few Hours so refreshed me, that I awoke a new Creature. About ten in the Evening, the Wife and Daughter of my Goaler came into the Room, bringing me some sour Cyder to drink; and a piece of Bread: a poor Request, alas! after such a Fatigue as I had undergone; but I took it chearfully and thankfully. The Woman seemed to compassionate me, and after an Hour’s Discourse they both wept
with

with me ; they were Persons of mean Capacities and Education, but were not altogether void of Good-nature and Humanity. Here I remained for two long Years, and was delivered by a strange Accident : my Food being very mean, and my Grief great, I soon fell into a languishing Sickness ; at length the good Woman informed her Husband, that she believed me near Death, and therefore thought it concerned their Consciences to fetch a Priest to me ; which he consenting to, the Daughter was sent for a Friar, who was Curate of the Parish. The good Man, whose Outside was as mean, as his Inside was rich, soon came ; but believe me Sir, his Understanding and Goodness was such, that it might justly have preferred him to a Miter : his Name was Father *Benedict* ; he was the Son of a Lord, and had refused all Dignities, purely out of his great Humility, for which reason he chose to

live in this obscure Place. He approached me with such Compassion in his Looks, as encouraged me to hear without Prejudice. I was then so weak I could not rise; he asked me many Questions, how I came there? why I was thus confined? and being truly informed of all, spoke of my Father-in-law with great Dislike: 'God forbid, said he, our Faith should be propagated by such detestable means as these; Madam, I am sensible of your Wrongs, and will deliver you, or die in the Attempt,' He never urged me farther as to my Religion, but advising me to Secrecy, not thinking the Women proper to repose Confidence in; he came every Day to visit me, bringing in his Bosom, Wine and meat to comfort and strengthen me, which, with the reviving Hopes of Liberty, soon restored me to Health: And now he studied how to complete his good Work, by getting me thence

which

which he thus effected : He came to me one Afternoon, bringing another Brother of his Order with him, who had a double Habit on ; in the religious Disguise I dressed myself, and Father *Benedict* going into the Room where the Gaoler's Wife and Daughter were sitting, who, at his coming as usual, left my Chamber ; he held them in Discourse whilst Father *Anthony* and I went down and past the Gate by my Goaler, who civilly bid us Good Night. I was conducted by this Father to a little Hermitage on the Top of a Hill near the Convent he belonged to : Father *Benedict* came soon after to us, and here we consulted what to do ; they agreed that I should stay there for some Days concealed, that then Father *Anthony* should go with me to *Granville*, from whence he should send me to *England*, that being a Seaport less frequented, and consequently less dangerous for me, than *St. Maloes*.

44. BELINDIA; or, *Happiness*

Maloes. I staid in this Hermitage five Days, they bringing me Food: No Search was made after me, because the Goaler fearing to be ruined, when they mist me, went away to Monsieur *de Maintenon*, and told him I was dead of a spotted Fever and they were forced to dig a Grave, and throw me into it the same Night for fear of Infection; of which News he was very glad, and Christian Burial being not allowed to Hereticks, he did not regret the manner of my Burial, but rewarded the Goaler, who returned joyful to his miserable Home. The good Father *Anthony* and I set out for *Granville*; my Cowle and Frock, with a long pair of Beads tied to my hempen Girdle, made me appear a perfect *Capuchin*: We arrived safe at a Convent, where being refreshed we went to the Port; there we found a *Guernsey* Ship just ready to depart for *Southampton*; and here the good

Priest

Priest, to complete his Generosity, gave me a Purse of Gold to pay for my Passage, and assist me to get to my Home: -He gave me many Blessings at parting, and I returned him innumerable Thanks, promising ever to pray for him and Father *Benedict*, which I am bound to do. I arrived in *England* on the 17th of *March*, 1707-8, and from *Southampton* hired Horses and a Guide to this Place: At the Post-House I parted with and discharged the Man and Horses, and walked to my dear Cave, where my Child and Servants received me with such Transport, as if I had been risen from the Dead: and here I resolved to stay the Remainder of my Days, unless Providence, by some Miracle, restores my dear Lord to me, of whom I have never been able to get any Tidings, nor daring to return to *France* again. ‘ Madam, ‘ answered Mr. *Luellin*, I will be ‘ the Person who shall do you that ‘ Service

‘ Service, be pleased only to consent
 ‘ to remain in my House, where
 ‘ you are from this Day Mistress;
 ‘ send for your Furniture from the
 ‘ Cave, and make this, which is far
 ‘ more commodious, your Abode,
 ‘ and I will forthwith to *France*, to
 ‘ learn all that is possible of your
 ‘ Lord.’ The Ladies accepted with
 Joy his Offer, and now he passed
 some Days agreeably with them,
 whilst all Things were getting ready
 for his Departure to *France*. In
 this Time he studied both how to
 divert them, and secure the young
 Lady’s Heart, with whom he long-
 ed to talk in private, hoping to be
 satisfied with what Sentiments she
 had of him; to do which he sought
 a fit Opportunity.



C H A P. VII.

*In which Luellin gains the Heart and
Person of Belinda.*

THE young Lady was now, by the little God *Cupid*, render'd more thoughtful than usual, and loved to retire from Company, often frequenting the solitary Grove and shady Walks. One Evening, while some Ladies, whom Mr. *Luellin* had brought acquainted with his Guests, were playing at Cards with the Lady *Beaumont*, *Belinda* stole into the Garden to walk alone; her Lover, whose Eyes watched all her Steps, soon followed. ‘ Now, fair *Belinda*, said he, Fate has given me the happy Moment I have so long wished for; here we are alone no Spies to overhear: ah! tell me, charming Maid, what may I hope? am I beloved again, or must I die unblest’d;

‘ unblest’d; Tho’ I must be all my
‘ Days the most unhappy of Man-
‘ kind, if you refuse me that fair
‘ Hand; yet believe me, lovely Vir-
‘ gin, I would not force your Inclina-
‘ tion for an Empire, nor occasion
‘ you one Moment’s Uneasiness,
‘ tho’ to enjoy you; which would
‘ be to me the greatest Bliss my
‘ Soul could know: speak, and let
‘ that charming Mouth pronounce
‘ my Doom.’ *Belinda* quite un-
practis’d in the cunning Arts of her
ingenious Sex, her Face overspread
with Blushes, answered, ‘ Sir, the
‘ Passion of Love, I think, I am a
‘ Stranger to; but this I own, I
‘ have a grateful Sense of all the ge-
‘ nerous Treatment we have receiv-
‘ ed from you: I don’t dislike your
‘ Person, nor disapprove your Pas-
‘ sion, if sincere, but do not think
‘ myself of Years to chuse a Hus-
‘ band; my Mother must dispose of
‘ me, for she hath both Wisdom and
‘ Experience.

‘ Experience, ’tis her Commands
‘ must guide my Choice.’ Ah!
must I then, said he, owe that, to
her Commands, that I would only
owe to you? ‘ Say, should she com-
‘ mand you to receive another in
‘ your Arms, would you consent to
‘ see me wretched, cursing my Fate,
‘ and dying at your Feet, and make
‘ another happy with my Ruin?
‘ Press me no more, she cried, you
‘ have urged me to a Point I cannot
‘ answer to. At these Words she
fainted in his Arms; Joy and Fear,
at that Instant, did so divide his
Soul, he knew not what he did: he
took her in his Arms, and bore her
to his own Chamber, laid her on his
own Bed, and there, in Transports,
viewed her reviving Beauties, saw
the Roses return to her pale Cheeks,
and her Eyes open to behold the Man
she loved; and here he gained a
Promise from her to be his. Here
they joined Lips and Hands; for

E

Fate

Fate had joined their Hearts before, and bound themselves in sacred Vows to be for ever true to one another; then he, reflecting on his Indiscretion, led her to her Chamber, where repeating his Protestations and Embraces, he left her. Full of Joy he rejoined the Company, where he appeared so gay and chearful, that it was easy to imagine something more than usual had happened to him. In some time, the Company taking leave, the Lady *Beaumont* asked for her Daughter, and was told she was not well in her Chamber; thither the Lady went, and found *Belinda* so disordered, that she was much surprized, but could not guess the Reason, till *Maria*, who had seen from the Window Mr. *Luellin* carry her in his Arms into the House from the Garden, whispered her Lady, which filled her with such Suspensions, that she was almost distracted; she desired *Belinda* to go down

down to Supper, and take the Air, thinking it wiser to conceal her Thoughts, then ask Questions, hoping to discover by their Behaviour what had passed. No sooner did *Belinda* enter the Parlour, where her Lover waited their coming to Supper, which was then upon the Table, but his Eyes sparkled, and her Colour changed, and both trembled at Supper his Eyes were continually turned upon her, and her's cast down: he seemed more tender and officious than ever, she more shy. After Supper they walked into the Garden, and there Mr. *Luellin* thus put an End to the old Lady's Pain:

• Madam, said he, you are, I am
• certain, too clear-sighted, not to
• have observed something in my
• Looks and Behaviour this Evening
• that must inform you, that charming *Belinda* and I have had an Interview alone, much to my Satisfaction, nor do I doubt but some-

‘ body has whispered it to you already; I saw at Table how you watched our Eyes and Looks, and to prevent all Suspicions that may ruin our Peace I tell you, she has this happy Day made herself mine, and to-morrow Morning, if you bless me with your Consent, we will be married; for I cannot leave *Wales* before I have secured my Charmer from the Temptations she might be exposed to in my Absence, which, when a Wife, she will be freed from.’ The old Lady gladly consented, and the next Morning they went privately in the Coach to a Village, where the Ceremony was performed to the Satisfaction of all Parties. The next Day it was public Talk, and Mr. *Luellin* shewed his Joy, by treating all his Country Relations and Tenants for ten Days together; all which Time he kept open House. In this Junctionure there came down from *London*,
to

to pay him a Visit, a young Gentleman who was his Cousin-German, and had long wished his Death, no doubt, because he was his Heir, if he died without Issue. This young Man Mr. *Luellin* had always loved and bred him up as a Son, having bought him Chambers in the *Temple*, where he, like most Gentlemen of this Age, had forgot the noble Principles, and virtuous Precepts he had brought to Town with him, and acquired all the fashionable Vices that gave a Man the Title of a fine Gentleman. He was a Contemner of Marriage, could drink, dissemble and deceive to Perfection; and had a very handsome Person, an excellent Wit, and was most happy in expressing his Thoughts elegantly: These Talents he always employed in seducing the Fair, or engaging the Affection of his Companions, who doated upon him because he was cunning and daring, could always

lead them on to Pleasures, or bring them nicely off, if frustrated in any vicious Designs. His Name was *Charles Owen Glandore*: This Gentleman was received by his Kinsman with much Joy and Affection; he assured him he should not be slighted or forgotten, tho' he was married; he brought him to his Lady, recommending him to her Favour. And now the Time approached when Mr. *Luellin* was to go to *France*, all Things being ready: He thought none more proper than his Kinsman (who had by this time gained the Ladies Esteem) to take Care of his Affairs in his Absence; he therefore desired him to stay till his Return with his Wife and Mother-in-law, who would by that Means be eased of some Care and Trouble; and so taking leave in the most tender manner of his charming Bride, he set Sail for *France*, in a small Vessel which he hired on Purpose to go for
St.

St. Maloes, and wait his Return, proposing to be back in *Wales* in a Month or Six Weeks time.

C H A P. VIII.

*Containing some strange Adventres,
in which Glandore forces away
Belinda.*

MR. Luellin being now gone, Mr. Glandore, his young Kinsman had the Pleasure of entertaining the Ladies, and frequent Opportunities of being alone with *Belinda*: his Kinsman's Fortune was all at his Command, and having unfortunately cast his Eyes on her, whom he no sooner saw but he loved, he strove to gain her Affection, and charm her Virtue asleep, by all the Arts imaginable: He dressed magnificently, gave them new Diversions every Day, was gay and entertaining,

entertaining, studied how to gratify all her Wishes; and in fine, was so assiduous and tender of both the Ladies, that had *Belinda's* Heart not been pre-engaged, he would certainly have gained both that and her Mother's Consent. Being now grown intimate and familiar with both, *Belinda* did not scruple sometimes to walk with him in the Gardens, Groves and Fields; and when her Mother was engaged with grave Company, courted these Opportunities of slipping out with him, whom she believed honourable and virtuous as herself, and loved as a Brother. He, being perfectly skilled in the Arts of his subtle Sex, resolved never to discover his base Design to her, till he was well assured she liked him and a fit Opportunity offered in a Place where he might ruin her, without being prevented; for he was resolved to enjoy her, tho' by Force, and determined to rescue all Dangers,

Dangers, rather than miss of what his head-strong Passion perswaded him he could not live without. He knew the Time was but short before Mr. *Luellin* would return, and therefore he must be quick in executing what he designed; he had a Servant whom he had left in Town, who was a Pimp to all his Pleasures, a Fellow who was wicked, bold, and in fine, such a one as was fit to carry on any vicious or base Design, secret and proper for his vile Purpose; him he sent for; he came down, and they contrived the poor *Belinda's* Undoing. At the bottom of the Grove, which was a quarter of a Mile distant from the House, was a fine Summer-House; hither one Evening he led her, whilst her Mother was engaged at Cards with some Ladies who were come to visit her.

When *Belinda* and he came to the Grove, he perswaded her to go up into the Summer-House, into which they

they were no sooner entered, but he shut the Door, saying, 'Madam, be not surprized, but hearken to what I am going to say, and answer me.' Here he threw himself upon his Knees; 'Charming Belinda, said he, I love you, I even die to possess you; oblige me not to use Force, where I would use only Prayers, make me this Moment the most happy Man alive, or else I must convey you to a Place where I shall make you comply, and perhaps make us both wretched: here we can have Opportunities without being discovered, and may enjoy one another without public Scandal and Noise; but if I take you hence, I must live with you in Obscurity, and if we are discovered, kill your Husband in my own Defence and your's; or dying, leave you to his Reproaches and public Disgrace. You are, I know, with Child, and therefore
need

‘ need fear no Discovery.’ - Here he
drew forth a Pistol; ‘ Look not
‘ round about, said he, for Help,
‘ Death stands between this Door
‘ and him that dares to enter, I
‘ have those at Hand that will make
‘ all safe for me to act.’ *Belinda*,
who had now no other Arms but
Prayers and Tears to defend her Vir-
tue withal, threw herself at his Feet,
saying, ‘ Oh ! cruel faithless Man,
‘ what Joy can you receive in the
‘ Ruin of a Person who can never
‘ be lawfully yours? Consider the
‘ sad Consequence of such a Deed,
‘ which you will doubtless repent
‘ of: By Heaven I’ll never give
‘ Consent, and if you force me like
‘ a Brute, what Satisfaction will
‘ you reap? I shall then hate and
‘ scorn you, loath your Embraces,
‘ and if I ever escape your Hands
‘ again, sure Vengeance will over-
‘ take you ; nay, you shall drag me
‘ sooner to my Grave, than to your
‘ Bed

‘ Bed; I will resist till Death, and
 ‘ curse you with my last Breath:
 ‘ But if you spare me, my Prayers
 ‘ and Blessings shall attend you, nay,
 ‘ I will pity and forgive you. I am
 ‘ deaf to all that you can plead
 ‘ against my Love, he cried, yield,
 ‘ or I’ll force you hence. No, says
 ‘ she, I’ll rather die; now, Villain,
 ‘ I will hate you: help and defend
 ‘ me, Heaven.

Here he seized her Hands, his
 Man at the same Instant entering
 gagged and bound her; then they
 blindfolded her, and *Glandore* car-
 ried her down, putting her into a
 Coach, where, drawing up the Can-
 vasses, he held her in his Lap, whilst
 his Man drove them over the Hills
 across the Country, with Design to
 reach a Village fifty Miles distant,
 where *Glandore* had procured a Place
 to receive them, being an old ruin-
 ous Castle, where none but an old
 Man and his Family resided, who
 spoke

spoke nothing but *Welch*, lived on what was produced about the Place, and never saw a Market-Town, so that he could keep her there without fear of Discovery. To be enabled for this, he had taken a considerable Sum of Money of his Kinsman's in the Coach, and had besides some Fortune of his own; they changed Horses on the Road twice, all things being before provided, and travelled all Night, he taking the impudent Liberty of kissing her as he pleased.

C H A P. IX.

Containing the Death of Glandore, and the Escape of Belindia, A new Difficulty falls in her way at Mr. Hide's.

ABOUT five in the Morning they were in sight of this dismal Place here he stopt the Coach;
F she

the being swooned away in his Arms, he unbound her and gave her some Wine; but before he could bring her to herself, he saw four Men in Vizards, well mounted, coming up to the Coach, which made him peep out, to be upon his Guard: his guilty Conscience made him tremble for tho' he was brave on other Occasions, yet now he was not so; Heaven that had permitted him to act this Villainy, still protects Innocence, and had prepared its Judgments to overtake him. These Men were Robbers, who lived concealed in these desolate Mountains; they went to seize him, he resisted, his Man, coming down to help his Master, was shot dead, and in the Dispute the unfortunate Glandore was kill'd.

During this Scuffle the unhappy *Belnida* revived; they dragged her out of the Coach, which whilst they were rising, a Company of Clowns, who

who were going to a Fair about twenty Miles thence with Horses to sell, came up, at whose Approach the Thieves fled. By these honest Countrymen the Lady was relieved, but they could speak nothing but *Welsh*, so that she could not make them understand one Word: one of them got up into the Coach-box, and drove the Lady to his Landlord's House, where he gave an account of what had past: the Son of the Gentleman was at home, but the Father was elsewhere: he was a very accomplished young Gentleman, well bred, handsome, about twenty Years of Age: he and his Father, who had in this Place purchased a small Estate, lived very private, for Reasons that shall be hereafter declared: he was known by the Name of Mr. *Hide*. He received the young Lady in a manner so courtly, that it was easy to guess he had been educated in Palaces, and conversed

F 2

with

with Princes; having treated her in the highest manner with Wine and Food, he begged to know who she was: she prudently concealed her Name, Family, and all the Transactions of her Life, telling him only that she was coming this way with her Brother, who was the unfortunate Gentleman, whom the Thieves had kill'd and came from *Swansley*, to which Place she begged he would send some of his Servants back with her, and it would be the greatest Favour he could do her, This he promised to do, but, alas! the blind God had already wounded his Breast; he gazed upon her with Transport, and resolved not to part with her on any Terms. The Coach being cleaned and put up by the Servants they found the Sum of Gold *Glandore* had put up in the Seat, and honestly brought it to the Lady, who genteely gave them five Guineas to drink: this Largess, the
Great-

Greatness of the Sum, which was fifteen hundred Pieces, and her Habit, made Mr. *Hide*, conclude she was some Person of Distinction: which the more inflamed his Desires to know who she was. He entertained her magnificently, but put off from Day to Day her Departure, saying she must stay till his Father came and then he should wait on her home himself. She too well guessed the Reason of his prolonging her Stay, and having so lately escaped from the Hand of a desperate Lover was dreadfully alarmed at this new Misfortune: he behaved himself with such Modesty and Respect, that she could not complain, but still she feared it was like *Glandore's* Cunning only to procure an Opportunity to undo her: she was wholly in his Power, having none but Servants in the House, who spoke nothing but *Welch*; this made her very reserved. At last he declared himself

to her, as they were sitting together
 after Dinner, the Servants being all
 withdrawn: 'Madam, said he, Pro-
 vidence, that hath brought you
 hither did it I hope, for both our
 Happiness: I no sooner saw you,
 but my Soul adored you: I am
 by Birth much Nobler than I ap-
 pear to be, our Years are agreeable,
 I will omit nothing that can gain
 your Affection, nor think any
 Pains too much, or Time too long
 to obtain you. Charming Fair,
 why do you fear and avoid me?
 why treat me with such Coldness
 and Reserve? Am I disliked and
 must I languish, sigh, and beg in
 vain? Never can I cease to love
 you, till I cease to live; permit me
 then to hope, if not, I am resolved
 to die a Victim to your Disdain;
 forbid me not to follow you, for I
 must disobey, I cannot bear your
 Absence, nor consent to live, and
 see a happy Rival possess you.
 Here

Here he seized her Hand, and in a great Disorder kissed it. 'Forbear Sir, said *Belindia*, I never can be yours, I am already married, and with Child.' Here she related to him how *Glandore* had stolen her away.

At these Words a death-like Paleness over spread his Face, a cold Sweat trickled down his Cheek. 'My God *said he*, it is enough; Madam, I will no more importune you, fear nothing from me, Virtue and Honour are as dear to me as you, since you cannot be mine, I ask no more, but that you will stay and see me die, and not detest my Memory, since Vice has no share in my Soul.' Here he fainted and was by his Servants carried into his Chamber: *Belinda* wept, her Heart was young and tender, and the Honour he had shewn, touched her Soul so nearly, that she much lamented his Misfortune, and could not consent

sent with ease to let him die; therefore she strove with Reason to assuage his Grief, and cure his Passion: but in vain, he fell into an intermitting Fever, and grew so weak, that he could not rise without Help, yet would every Day be taken up, and brought into the Parlour where she sat. And here we must leave them, and return to enquire after the Lord Beaumont and Mr. Luellin.

C H A P. X.

Containing the Travels of Mr. Luellin, in which he finds the long-lost Husband of Madam de Rochefoucault, a Wife for Mr. Hide, and a Father-in-law for himself.

MR. Luellin arrived safe at St. Maloes, July the 30th, 1717, and went as Madam de Rochefoucault had directed, with a Letter to the Gentleman's

Gentleman's House where she had been received at her being in *France*. but he was dead; so that he was obliged to go thence without much Information of what he wanted. But it being now a Time when *France* and *England* were at Peace; he had nothing to fear; he went therefore directly to *Coutance*, and there lodged at the best Inn, where he enquired for the Govenor Monsieur de *Maintenon*: they told him he was long since dead, but the young Marquis his Son was still alive, but had quitted all his Employments, being retired into the Country. 'Is he a single Man?' said Mr. *Luellin*. 'Yes, Sir, said the Inn-keeper, he is a Widower for the second time, having buried his second Lady about two Years ago; he has a Daughter of his Wife's by a first Husband, who is one of the beautifullest Children, and will be the greatest Fortune in this Province'.
Mr.

Mr. *Luellin* was impatient to see him, so stayed no longer there than that Night: the next Morning he set out with his two Servants which he took along with him from *Wales*, and arrived that Night at a Village which was about three Miles short of the Marquis's Seat: It being late he stayed at the Village that Night, and the next Morning went to the Marquis's, whom it was no easy Matter to speak with, for he was denied to all Company, but some particular Friends. Mr. *Luellin* sent him word, by his Gentleman who was called to him, that he came from *Wales* express, to bring him News of some Persons whom he would be much overjoyed to hear of.

The Marquis no sooner received this Message, but he came down and received him in much Disorder; he was dressed in Mourning, and looked like a Man half dead: 'My Lord,
' said

‘ said he, I doubt not but I shall be
‘ welcome, since I come from your
‘ virtuous Lady *Belinda*; she lives,
‘ has a Daughter who is my Wife,
‘ to present to you; such a one, that
‘ you may glory to be the Father of.’

Here he presented him a Letter
from his Wife, at the Sight of which
the Tears ran down his Face, and
he fainted away, Joy having so
overpowered his Faculties, that they
lost their Power to perform their
Functions. Mr. *Luellin* supported
him till he recovered, and then he
broke out into these passionate Ex-
pressions: ‘ My God, am I alive! do
‘ I wake! can this be true! is my
‘ *Belinda*, my Joy, my All, still
‘ living? Is the precious Pledge of
‘ our mutual Affection born, and
‘ preserved to this Day? Oh! miti-
‘ gate my Transport, or strengthen
‘ my Faculties! Do I here find a
‘ Son?’ Here he embraced Mr.
Luellin. ‘ Oh! welcome, wel-
‘ come,

‘ come, ten thousand times; I want
‘ Expressions to speak my Gratitude
‘ to my God and you.’

Here they sat down, the Marquis called for Wine, and now Mr. *Luellin* related to him all the Adventures that had befallen his Lady since their parting: But when he related Monsieur *de Maintenon*’s cruel Usage of her, the Marquis wept. ‘ And now my Lord, said Mr. *Luellin*, ‘ I should be glad to know your Story, ‘ but we will defer that to some other Time, ’tis Joy enough to me ‘ that I find you here alive.’ The Marquis answered, ‘ That Story ‘ will serve to entertain us in our ‘ Journey to St. *Maloes*, and Voyage ‘ to *Wales*: I must now order my ‘ Affairs to go thither, for my Impatience to see my dear *Belinda*, ‘ and my Child, is such, that I can ‘ think of nothing else.’ Mr. *Luellin* was entertained here so magnificently, that he was even surprized:
The

The young Lady, Daughter-in-law to the Marquis, whose Name was *Isabella*, was so beautiful and witty, that Mr. *Luellin* thought her equal to his Wife: She was then thirteen, and the Marquis was so very fond of her, she begged to accompany her Father, to see her new Mother and Sister, and at last prevailed to go with them. In a few Days all Things were ready for their Departure, the Servants were ordered to repair to the Marquis's Seat at *Coutance*, to be ready to receive their Lady; the whole Country rang of this strange Adventure: The Marquis set out, attended by only two of his own Servants, and Mr. *Luellin's* two, with the Lady *Isabella*, and her Woman: They arrived at *St. Maloes*, and the next Morning set Sail with a fair Wind for *Wales*, in the Vessel that attended Mr. *Luellin*.

And now being aboard, he importuned the Marquis to relate his Adventures in *Sweden*, which he willingly condescended to, and began the Narrative of his Misfortunes in this Manner.

C H A P. XI.

Containing the Adventures of the Marquis de Beaumont in Sweden and Russia.

YOU have heard how, my Father and I quarrelling, I left *France*, supposing my dear Wife dead; and considering him as the principal Cause of her Death. I had continued with him about six Months before I resolved to be gone; I was fallen into so deep a Melancholy, that I was regardless of every Thing, but fearing my Death, he so importuned me to re-sume my usual

usual Cheerfulness and Gaiety, that at length he obliged me to discover my Resentments; declare the Reasons of my being-uneasy in his Presence, and my Resolution to continue no longer in *France*; I had writ several Letters to my Wife's Uncle, but receiving no Answer, I concluded him also dead, and therefore order'd all my Affairs to depart for *Sweden*, determining to seek a noble Death in the Field, under that glorious Monarch, *Charles XII.* King of *Sweden*. I took no more but three Servants to attend me, having ^{re}mitted Money sufficient to purchase an Employment, and answer my Expences. I no sooner arrived at *Stockholm*, but I obtained the Command of a Regiment, and after having courted Death in many Skirmishes and bloody Battles. I was unfortunately, in the last that brave King fought with the Czar, taken Prisoner: my whole Regiment and the

greatest Part of the Army, being destroyed, I fell full of Wounds amongst the Slain; but, upon the *Muscovites* stripping the Dead, they found some Signs of Life in me, and judging by my Habit that I was some Person of Distinction, they carried me to a Tent near the General's, where they dressed my Wounds, and with Cordials brought me to the Use of my Reason again, to my great Grief. I continued so ill and weak, for three Months, that they had small Hopes of recovering me. In this Time I was removed to a Town called *Toropierz*, where the General had a Country Seat. In this Place I was very civilly entertained, the General having taken a great Liking to me, and here he much persuaded me to enter into the Czar's Service, saying, that being a Native of *France*; and no Subject of *Sweden*, having paid for my Employment there, he thought I was under no Obligation to
the

the King of *Sweden*, and that his Master should engage me to his Service, by giving me a Command under him. I answered, that having voluntarily drawn my Sword in the King of *Sweden's* Defence, Honour obliged me never to quit it; that I was highly obliged to him for his generous Offers, and should upon all Occasions return the Obligation. He smiled; seeming to applaud my Resolution, but told me he should he believed, find an Advocate that should prevail with me, otherwise he should set a Ransom so great upon me, knowing my Worth, that he believed he should have the Pleasure of my Company long; and since he could not engage me to serve his Prince, he would, if possible, prevent my fighting against him.

At these Words he took me by the Hand, and led me to his Wife's Apartment, where were his two

Sons and Wife, with his only Daughter, a Maid of fourteen Years of Age, beautiful as Nature ever formed: She was tall, slender, fair as *Venus*, her Eyes blue, bright, and languishing; her Hair was light brown, and every Feature of her Face had a Charm; but, Son, her Conversation was enchanting, as I afterwards experienced. The General presented me to his Sons, two lovely young Men, whose Looks and Habit spoke their Worth and Quality. ‘Here Children, said he, is
 ‘ the bravest Enemy our Emperor
 ‘ has; a Man who is so dear to me,
 ‘ that if you can make him our
 ‘ Monarch’s Friend, you will oblige
 ‘ me in the most sensible Manner;
 ‘ use all your utmost Skill to gain
 ‘ him.’ Then he took *Zara*, his fair Daughter by the Hand, presenting her to me, ‘Here is the dearest
 ‘ Thing I have in the World, said
 ‘ he, I give you Leave to love her;
 ‘ nay,

‘ nay, will bestow her upon you, to
‘ secure your Friendship: If her
‘ Eyes cannot prevail, our Eloquence
‘ cannot succeed.’ Here he left us,
and from this Day I was caressed by
all the Family; and *Zara*, the
charmingest Advocate that ever sued
to gain a Heart, tried all her Arts,
she danced, sung, dress’d, and try-
ing to ensnare me, unfortunately lost
herself; for, alas! she loved me, and
had not my whole Soul been filled
with the bright Idea of *Belinda*, it
would have been impossible for me
to have resisted her Charms. At
length I generously told her, as we
were sitting alone in a Drawing-
Room, it being the cold Season of
the Year, when we were obliged to
sit in warm Rooms, ‘ Charming *Zara*,
‘ said I, it would be cruel and un-
‘ grateful in me, not to deal inge-
‘ nuously with you. I own you are
‘ the most accomplished Maid my
‘ Eyes ever saw, there is nothing
‘ wanting

wanting in you to make a Man
completely happy; you have
Wisdom, Beauty, and Virtue, and
God never made any Work more
perfect: But, alas! fairest of your
Sex, I am a Man unworthy of that
Affection, which, given to another,
would set him above Monarchs.
My Choice was long since made,
my Heart is a Captive to one like
yourself, who was my Wife; one in
whose Arms I have slept more glorious
and content, than Eastern Kings;
a Lady who is no more, yet one whose
Memory is so dear to me that I am
grown insensible to all your Sex;
her bright Idea fills my Mind, in
Dreams I'm nightly happy, pursue
her Shadow, and embrace her heavenly
Form; and when awake, still long for
Death, in Hopes to meet her in the
glorious Regions where the happy
Souls shall meet again: Look then
no more upon a Wretch

‘ Wretch who can make no Returns
‘ to your invaluable Bounties.’ *Zara*
beheld me all this while as one a-
mazed, the Roses forsook her
Cheeks, and finding I had done, she
thus began, ‘ Unfortunate *Beaumont*,
‘ are you enamoured of a Ghost?
‘ Must the Dead rise to rob the
‘ wretched *Zara* of her Heart:
‘ Why did you not forewarn me e’er
‘ I was undone? Ye Powers, why
‘ does my Vengeance stay to stab the
‘ Wretch that is a Witness to my
‘ Folly: I never loved before, she
‘ whom you love is buried in the
‘ Grave: Can you consent to sacrifice
‘ me to her Ghost? Can you enjoy
‘ a Shadow? Consider e’er you bid
‘ me die. I will not live and be de-
‘ spised.’ ‘ Forgive me Heaven,
‘ said I, may a Thought like that
‘ never enter your Soul: may *Zara*
‘ live and be most happy; gladly I’d
‘ die to save your Life, but cannot
‘ make a second Choice.’

Here

they

Here we were interrupted, and after this she shunned me, and for some Months kept much within her Chamber, grew sick and altered, which much alarmed the Family, and, I confess, my Thoughts were much confused: sometimes I thought to marry her, and run all Hazards to make her happy: But then *Belinda* might be still alive, and then I were undone, and my Peace lost for ever.

One Morning *Barintha*, *Zara's* Governess came hastily into my Chamber. 'Sir, said she, if you
' will ever see my Lady more, come
' now, for she is expiring.' I following her, and found *Zara* in the Agonies of Death; she fixed her dying Eyes upon me, grasped my Hand, and faintly cried, 'Farewel,
' cruel, but faithful *Beaumont*, adieu. I go to seek the Ghost of
' her that murders me: I loved you,
' and could not live without you,
' and therefore drank a poisonous
' Draught

' Draught last Night to free me,
' Forgive me Heaven, since Life
' was insupportable Ah! pray for
' me, dear Cause of my sad Fate, I
' am going I know not where.'

Here her Tongue faltered, her Agonies encreased, and in a few Moments she expired. At this Instant my Grief was such, that, had I not been a Christian, I had surely ended my Life and Mistortunes together: I kissed her pale Face a hundred Times, wept over her, and then retreated to my Chamber, threw myself upon my Bed, refused to eat, and by next Morning was seized with a violent Fever, which robbed me of my Reason for some Days, at the End of which, my Disease being something abated, I saw *Zara's* two Brothers enter my Chamber with four Soldiers, the eldest loaded me with Reproaches for his Sister's Death, to which I was unable to reply through Weakness. At last they

they took me out of my Bed, pini-
 oned me, and set me upon a Horse,
 the four Soldiers riding by me as a
 Guard. They went with me over
 dreadful Mountains and Hills, whose
 Tops were covered with Snow, and
 after three Days and two Nights tra-
 velling, in which Time they never
 entered any House or Inn, but laid
 me bound upon the Ground, whilst
 the Horses fed and rested, giving
 me Brandy, Bread, and Meat, out
 of their Knapfacks; we at last ar-
 rived at an old Tower on the Bor-
 ders of *Muscovy*, where they deliver-
 ed me into the Hands of a Goaler,
 who lodged me in a close damp
 Room, loading me with Irons. Here
 I remained ten Months sick, and had
 not God's Providence preserved me
 miraculously I had doubtless died.



C H A P. XII.

*Relating the Marquis's Imprisonment,
and his wonderful Escape; his
joining a Band of Tartar Robbers;
his Flight from them, and Return
home.*

THREE Months after my Arrival a young Gentleman was brought Prisoner to this dismal Place, by Order of the Czar, who, having Gold to see the Goaler, had the Liberty of walking up and down the Prison; we conversed together, he much pitied my Misfortune and ill Treatment, and promised my Enlargement, either by his Interest with the Goaler, or by Force. His Friends who solicited for him at Court, being unsuccessful, gave him Notice that his Case was desperate: Upon which we took a Resolution to kill our Goaler, and fight our Way out.

H

Accordingly

Accordingly the next Morning we seized him as he entered my Chamber, and having knocked him down with the Bar of a Door that we found in my Room; we dispatched him, took the Keys, and rushed by the Centries who kept the Outer-gate; and not knowing where to go, we fled over the Mountains towards a Wood in *Tartary*, to which he guided me, where none but Robbers and Out-Laws lived. My Fetters much hindered my Speed, being extremely weak, but Fear gave me Strength, so that we reached the Wood before Night, believing it more safe for us to put our Lives into the Hands of Thieves than our merciless Enemies. Here we laid down under a Tree to rest, not being able to go farther, and slept some Hours, though in Danger of Death every Minute from the wild Beasts, who went howling about the Woods for Prey, or more barbarous Men:
But

But God kept us; and awaking we thought we perceived, at some Distance, a Light. Necessity, being in great Want of Food, made us venture to the Place. We saw a little Cave, in which a venerable old Man sat reading by a Lamp; we entered, saluting him in the *Muscovite* Language with, ‘God save you
 ‘Sir, take Pity of us who are fled
 ‘from our Enemies out of a Prison,
 ‘destitute of Food or Comfort,
 ‘grant us a Retreat for a few Days,
 ‘or at least a few Hours: We are
 ‘Christians, Catholicks, and one of
 ‘us a Native of *France*.’ At these Words the old Man rose from his Seat, embraced us and stirring up the Embers, made a Fire, and gave us Wine and Bread, telling us we were welcome. We informed him whence we came, the Causes of our Confinement. At last he turned towards me, ‘Countryman, said he, tell me
 ‘what Family you are descended
 H 2 ‘from,

‘ from, what Province you were born
 ‘ in.’ I informed him, then he
 caught me in his Arms, as a Man
 lost in Wonder. ‘ My Lord, said
 ‘ he, I have fought you long, and
 ‘ can disclose Wonders to you: My
 ‘ Name is *Anthony*, I am a Capuchin
 ‘ Frier, who saved your Lady’s Life,
 ‘ and came to *Muscovy* on Purpose
 ‘ to seek you out.’ Here he re-
 counted to us how *Belinda* came to
France in search of me: how my
 Father imprisoned her; but before
 he could finish his Story, a Band of
Tartarian Robbers entered the Cell,
 seized us, and he, importuning them
 for us, was unfortunately shot by one
 of the barbarous Villians: They tied
 us Back to Back, and carried us some
 Miles farther into the Wood, where
 there were about an hundred of them
 encamped; and now we were again
 Prisoners: Here they lived with
 their Women all in common, lodg-
 ing only in Tents, and chiefly sup-
 porting

porting their Lives with robbing all Passengers that came near the Wood: yet tho' Barbarians, we found some Humanity amongst them; they gave us Plenty of Food, took off my Fetters, and offered us our Freedom, if we would consent to live with them; which we accepted, and for some Days were obliged to ride out with them, at the Head of 20 or 30 *Tartars*, where we robbed, getting considerable Booty from some *Persian* Merchants, who were going to *Muscovy* with rich Merchandise. The *Tartars* were so well pleased with our Behaviour and Conduct, that they gave us what we pleased of the Plunder: By this Means we were trusted with good Horses, which, though small, yet were exceeding fleet.

We did not design to stay here, but sought an Opportunity to escape, which Providence favoured us withal in this Manner. One Morning, at

Break of Day, we went out with a Party in search of a Caravan that we had Information was soon to pass by that Road; it consisted of about fifty Passengers, and Soldiers, of several Nations, who were coming from *Persia* to *Muscovy* with Merchandise. We no sooner saw this Company coming up, but the *Tartars* began to shrink: They saw their Enemies well armed and numerous, and did not think themselves strong enough to attack them. We set Spurs to our Horses, leaving them in this Consternation, and calling to the foremost of the Caravan, in a suppliant Manner, throwing down our Arms, desired to be heard. Seeing us but two, they stopped, and upon our declaring we were not Enemies, received us. We then gave an Account of our Adventures with the *Tartars*, and enquired if any of them were going to *Sweden* or *Germany*. There were two Gentlemen

tlemen and their Servants going to *Hungary*; these we went along with leaving the Rest: And the young *Muscovite* Lord not knowing how to provide for himself, I offered to carry him with me to *France*, and there take Care of him, which he gladly consented to.

Being arrived in *Hungary*, having now but little Money left of what we brought with us of the Plunder we got amongst the Robbers, we were obliged to sell some rich Diamonds we had hid in our Cloaths, and with this Money we procured Horses, with Servants to attend us, and so set out for *France*, whither I was now determined to return, being wearied with the many Misfortunes I had met with abroad; and at the Expiration of six Weeks we arrived safely at *Coutance*, where I found my Father dead, and all my Relations and Friends overjoy'd to see me. I was sorry my Father died before I
had

had seen him, to have asked his Pardon for my Rashness in leaving him, tho' he was to blame, yet I believe Almighty God punished me for my Disobedience, and it is to that Cause that I attribute all my Misfortunes in *Muscovy*.

C H A P. XIII.

Containing the History of Lord Beaumont's second Marriage, and the Death of his Wife.

B EING now settled in my Father's Estate, and Posts of Honour, by the King, to whom I paid my Duty at my Arrival in *France*; he received me with his accustomed Goodness, reproving me gently for leaving his Service, saying, 'My Lord, Love is an Excuse, I own, ' for doing many rash inconsiderable ' Things, I do not approve your ' Father's

‘ Father’s Proceedings with your
‘ Wife; but I, and your Country,
‘ had done you no wrong. It is true
‘ your Father used my Name, which
‘ was not well done, but I protest I was
‘ ignorant of all, till since your De-
‘ parture from *France*, and had you
‘ addressed yourself to me, be assured
‘ I would have made you easy and
‘ happy. I here give you all your
‘ Father’s Posts of Honour, and
‘ doubt not but you will as bravely
‘ and faithfully discharge the Trust
‘ I repose in you as he did.’ Here
the King embraced me, and during
his Life I was much in his Favour.
I now thought only of my *Belinda*,
and examining all my Father’s old
Servants, discovered the Castle where
she had been imprisoned. I went
thither, and found the Goaler dead;
but his Wife and Daughter told me
she died there of a Spotted Fever,
fearing to confess the Truth that she
had escaped from them. I wrote to
St,

St. Maloes, to my Friend at whose House she had been ; he was dead, and I could learn no News of her there.

I remained two Years in Suspense ; at last, tired with the Importunities of my Friends, I resolved to marry again. It was now nine Years since I parted from *Belinda*, and I concluded, it was impossible that she should be still alive, and I her nothing from her ; nor had I any Hopes till last Week, when a Frier came to me, who is just arrived from *Muscovy*, where he had seen Father *Anthony* before I met with him in *Tartary*, and he told me he related to him the Cause of his coming thither thus : That Father *Benedict*, soon after he returned from *Granville*, where he had sent my Wife away, falling sick, enjoined him to go to *Sweden* in search of me, in case he died, which he did soon after : And this was the Occasion of my meeting
that

that good Father in the Wood, who learning that I was kept a Prisoner in *Muscovy*, came thither, but could not discover where I was, so retired to this dismal Place where we found him; where he begged in the neighbouring Villages, his holy Habit securing him from Injuries. But I concluded, not being able then to get any Information of her, she was dead; and in Compliance with my Friends Importunities, married a Lady who was a young Widow, of a great Family and Fortune, having only this lovely Daughter: But alas! I found myself so miserable now, that I cannot describe the Tortures of my Mind. I never entered my Bed with this Lady but I shiver'd; she loved me tenderly, but I fancied *Belinda's* Ghost pursued me; every Place where she had trod, each Room brought some new Thing to my Remembrance: I talked and started in my Sleep. In fine, though I did
all

all that I was able to conceal my Distraction, all the World perceived it; and my Wife, who was a Lady of great Wisdom and Goodness, and most unfortunate in being mine, was so sensibly touched that she fell into a Consumption, and after having languished for two Years; all Means proving unsuccessful to preserve her, she died. In her last Agonies, as I was weeping by her, for indeed I highly respected her, though I could not love her with Passion, and omitted nothing that could oblige or help her; she pulled me to her, fixed her Lips on mine, then sighed deeply, ' My dear Lord, said she, I thank
 ' you, you have done more for me
 ' than for your loved *Belinda*; the
 ' Constraint you have suffered upon
 ' my Account is the greatest Obliga-
 ' tion: I am now going, I doubt
 ' not, to Rest, and hope to meet
 ' you again in Glory: Let my Child
 ' be your chief Care; and if the
 ' tender

' tender Affection I bore you merits
 ' any Thing, shew your Esteem of
 ' me by your Love to her. I die,
 ' it is true, by having had too deep
 ' a Sense of your Misfortune in not
 ' loving me; but, my Lord, believe
 ' me, it is with Pleasure that I leave
 ' the World, since it will set you
 ' free: Could you have loved me,
 ' as you did *Belinda*, I should have
 ' been desirous to live long; but
 ' you cannot, I wish to die.' Here
 she again embraced and kissed me,
 then turned to her Confessor, who
 stood on the other Side the Bed,
 ' Father, said she, I have now done
 ' with the World, and all its Weak-
 ' nesses: I will grieve no more for
 ' mortal Things, but think on Hea-
 ' ven.' We all withdrew but the
 good Father, and in about an Hour
 she departed, leaving me most dis-
 console. For some Months I kept
 my Chamber, and then resolved to
 retire, and quit all public Business:

I

I went

I went to the King, took my leave of him, recommending the *Muscovite* Lord to him, to whom he gave a Company of Dragoons: Then I retired to my Country Seat, where you found me.

Thus the Marquis finished his Relations. They past the next Day very agreeably.

C H A P. XIV.

Containing an extraordinary Adventure in Ireland, to which Place they were drove in a violent Storm.

IN the Evening of the fifth Day, the Sky began to darken, the Wind blew, and about Midnight a dreadful Storm arose: At length the Pilot was obliged to quit the Government of the Ship, and let her drive before the Wind, At break of Day they

they found themselves in the *Irish* Seas, and not far from Land: their Rigging was all torn, Masts shattered, that it was in vain for them to attempt going for *Wales*, before they had repaired their Vessel, and refreshed themselves; therefore they made in for Land, and cast Anchor at *Wexford* in *Ireland*. They went ashore with the Captain, and lodged at an Inn whilst the Ship was refitting.

In the Time of their Stay at *Wexford* they were curious to see the Country, and the Marquis and Mr. *Luellin* frequently rid out to view the adjacent Towns and Villages, leaving the young Lady *Isabella* with her Servants. One Evening they lost their Way returning Home, and wandering near a Wood: It was almost dark, and they knew not whither to go; they therefore made a Stand, consulting what to do. At last they espied an old Man with a

I 2 Candle

Candle and Lanthorn coming towards them in very poor Habit, and a Beard down to his Breast. ‘Honest Man, said Mr. *Luellin*, can you direct us to some safe Place to lodge in to Night? Or put us in the Way to *Wexford*?’ “To *Wexford*, Sir! said he, you cannot reach that to Night: In the Morning I’ll put you in the Way; but for to Night, if you’ll accept of a Lodging in my poor Cottage hard by, you are welcome.” They gladly accepted his Offer, and followed him into the Wood, though something afraid lest he should betray them into the Hands of Robbers, of which there are many Times Gangs that retreat to such Places. At length they came to a poor Clay Cottage, where a Boy stood at the Door. The good Man bid them alight, which they did, taking their Pistols in their Hands, the Boy taking their Horses: They found
the

the Place neat, and not destitute of Necessaries; the Man entertained them handsomely, bringing out Venison-Pasty, Wine, and dried Tongues. ‘Gentlemen, said he, eat heartily, and spare not; we’ll drink the King’s Health before we part.’ The Marquis and Mr. *Luellin* began to imagine there was some Mystery in this Man’s living here, and were upon ther Guard; they appeared very merry, and guessed by their Host’s Behaviour, that he was a Man of Quality. When they were well warmed with Wine, they all began to be free, the old Man toasted the King’s Health, they pledged him. ‘My Lord, said Mr. *Luellin*, methinks it is almost as good living here as in *France* or *Wales*; Faith, I cannot treat you better when you come to *Swansey*.’ At these Words the Stranger looked upon them, saying, ‘Gentlemen, are you Natives of these two Places? they

‘are both well known to me.’ Here they were interrupted by the Boy, who informed his Master some Friends were come; he presently stepped to the Door, where they heard the Sound of Horses Feet. After some Time he returned to them, saying, ‘Gentlemen, I beg Pardon for leaving you; but it was to take Leave of some Friends who are going for *France*.’ It was now Midnight, and he genteely said, ‘Gentlemen you are weary, will you be pleased to go to Bed?’ They finished their Bottle, and were conducted up Stairs to a Room where they could but just stand upright for the Ceiling; but the Softness of the Bed, and Fineness of the Sheets, made amends; however they could not sleep, their Minds were so filled with Curiosity to know who this Man was. They talked all Night; the Marquis mentioned *Belinda* several Times, and *Isabella*, saying,
‘My

‘ My dear Child will repent her
‘ leaving *France*, and be much con-
‘ cerned for us this Night.’ This
their Discourse was overheard by the
old Man, who lay in the next Room;
they heard him up early, and rose:
Coming down Stairs they found
Breakfast ready for them. ‘ Now
‘ Gentlemen, said their Host, I must
‘ be impertinent, and ask some
‘ Questions before we part: I last
‘ Night heard one of you name *Be-*
‘ *linda*, and find you are lately come
‘ from *France*: I had a Sister of
‘ that Name, who dying, left a
‘ Daughter, of whom I would be
‘ glad to hear some Tidings: Come
‘ you from *Normandy*?’ “ By Hea-
“ ven, said the Marquis, to the old
“ Man, you are the Lord ———,
“ the Uncle of my dear *Belinda*,
“ that charming Virgin Fate made
“ me the happy Husband of.” Here
they sat down, recounting, in a
pathetick Manner, all their Adven-
tures

tures. The Marquis concluding, said, ‘ And now, Sir, I will : My
 ‘ Loyalty to my Prince brought me
 ‘ under some Misfortunes, at last I
 ‘ was forced with my only Son to fly
 ‘ to *Scotland*; there we lay conceal-
 ‘ ed a while, till I had received a
 ‘ great Sum of Money, that I had
 ‘ taken Methods to have remitted to
 ‘ me. From thence we hired a small
 ‘ Vessel and sailed for *Wales*, where
 ‘ I thought I should be secure from
 ‘ all Discovery : There I changed
 ‘ my Name, purchas’d a small E-
 ‘ state, and have lived happily, tho’
 ‘ obscurely, ever since, making several
 ‘ Voyages to *France*, to serve my
 ‘ Friends. I came to *Ireland* some
 ‘ Months ago, and chose this Place
 ‘ to reside in, my Habit and my
 ‘ Servants making us pass undiscover-
 ‘ ed : The Gentlemen you heard me
 ‘ speak to are gone to take Shipping,
 ‘ and I design to go for *Wales*, with
 ‘ the first Opportunity.’ “ We
 “ will

“ will go together, said Mr. Luel-
“ lin, where we shall fill our expect-
“ ting Wives Hearts with Joy.”
They parted ; the Lord ——— not
thinking it proper to go along with
them by Day Light, sending a Boy
to guide them to *Wexford*, where
they arrived, to the great Joy of the
Lady *Isabella*, who had been almost
distracted for fear her Father and
Brother-in-law had been killed. The
Ship being now ready, the Marquis,
the Lord ——— (who came to them
in Disguise) and all the Rest, going
on board, soon reach'd the Port of
Swansey.



C H A P. XV.

Describing the Meeting of the long-parted Couple, the Count de Beaumont and his Wife; and the several Grievs for the Loss of their Daughter Belinda.

MR. Luellin conducted the Marquis and the Lord——, with the young Lady and Servants, to his House; where being arrived, he saw the Servants look upon one another, and a great Sadness and Silence seemed to reign in every Face and Room. ‘Where is your Lady, and her Mother?’ he demanded. None answered. At length; ‘Sir,’ said a Boy trembling, that had ‘been bred in his House,’ ‘my Lady is stolen away, as we suppose by your Kinsman, Mr. Glandore, we have heard nothing of her this Month and more: The old Lady has

‘ has taken it so to Heart that she
‘ has kept her Bed ever since, and
‘ is more likely to die than to live.’

“ Shew me to her, said Mr. *Luellin*,
“ and let us join with her in Sorrow.”

‘ My God, continued he, where
‘ shall we find Faith in Man? Can
‘ neither the Ties of Blood, Friend-
‘ ship, Interest, nor Religion, bind
‘ Men to be just! But alas! he liv’d
‘ too long in that cursed Town,
‘ where Vice takes Place of Virtue;
‘ where Men rise by Villainy and
‘ Fraud; where the lustful Appetite
‘ has all Opportunities of being gra-
‘ tified; where Oaths and Promises
‘ are only Jest, and all Religion but
‘ Pretence, and made a Skreen and
‘ Cloak for Knavery; a Place where
‘ Truth and Virtue cannot live.
‘ Oh! curse on my Credulity, to
‘ trust so rich a Treasure to a Wolf,
‘ a lustful *Londoner*.’ He would
have gone on if the Marquis had not
interrupted him, begging him to be
patient.

patient, and, at least, procure his
 Happiness by bringing him to *Be-
 linda*. To her Chamber they went,
 where she was lying in her Bed, so
 weak that it was even dangerous to
 let her know her Happiness. The
 Marquis threw himself upon the Bed
 by her, weeping and embracing her
 in his Arms, cried, ‘ My God, I
 ‘ thank thee, that my longing
 ‘ Arms again do hold my dear *Be-
 ‘ linda*: Spare her, I beg thee, some
 ‘ few Years longer, to enjoy the
 ‘ mighty Blessings thou hast granted
 ‘ us: Look up my Dear, and bless
 ‘ thy ravished Husband with a tender
 ‘ Look; let my Soul leap to hear
 ‘ thy well known Voice, and thy
 ‘ Tongue tell me welcome.’ “ Am
 “ I alive! and do I wake, she cried,
 “ do I behold my dear Lord again!
 “ It is impossible! Let me behold
 “ him till my Eye-Strings crack,
 “ and my Life ends in Rapture!
 “ What Thanks, what Returns can
 “ I

“ I make to Heaven? Let all my
“ Faculties exert themselves, and
“ all united praise my God.” Here
she fainted, Joy having overcome
her wasted Spirits: Cordials were
brought, and she was recovered from
her Fit, and then she began to weep.
‘ Alas! my Lord, said she, were I
‘ able I would ask you a thousand
‘ Questions; but I hope now to live
‘ and enjoy your dear Company
‘ again; but we have lost our Child,
‘ dishonourably stolen. Ah! Son,
‘ said she, turning to Mr. *Luellin*,
‘ you were deceived, and left a Vil-
‘ lain to supply your Place.’ At
these Words she saw *Isabella*, ‘ What
‘ fair Virgin, said she, is that, my
‘ Lord? Have you more Daughters?
‘ and has some other Woman slept
‘ in your dear Arms?’ My Dear,
said he, ‘ I have been married since
‘ we parted, believing you were dead;
‘ but the Lady was so happy as to
‘ die before I was blessed with the
K ‘ Know-

' Knowledge of your Safety: This
 ' is a Daughter of her's by a former
 ' Husband; she is as dear to me as
 ' *Belinda*, and I brought her to pre-
 ' sent her to you, as the greatest
 ' Blessing Heaven can send you,
 ' next my Life and *Belinda's* Safety.'
 Then he turned to Mr. *Luellin*:
 ' Fear not, my Son, said he, I will
 ' find and fetch *Belinda* back, if yet
 ' alive, and use the Ravisher as he
 ' deserves.' Then the Servants were
 all called up, and examined; they
 informed them of *Glandore's* being
 seen with her in the Summer-House,
 and of some Places where they were
 seen together on the Road; so they
 concluded she was carried Northward
 and the Lord—— said, ' My
 ' Estate lies that Way. Nephew, if
 ' you please to stay with my Niece,
 ' my Kinsman and I will go together;
 ' we know the Roads and Country,
 ' and shall soon trace the Robber to
 ' his Den, I doubt not. The Ser-
 vants

vants said they had rid all about the Country, but could get no Intelligence where they were.

The next Morning the Lord—— (whom we must henceforward know to have gone by the Name of Mr. *Hide*, for he was Father to the young Gentleman who had fallen in love with *Belinda*) set out with Mr. *Luellin* and three Servants, well armed, and went the Road to his House, which was in *Merionethshire*, near the River *Wie*; they got Information on the Road of the Coach, and so continued to go towards Mr. *Hide's*, where they found young Mr. *Hide* dangerously ill: He received his Father with all Joy and Affection, and after some Discourse, related to them the Adventure of the young Lady's being brought thither, with the Manner of her being rescued from *Glandore*; and him, and his Servant being killed by the Highwaymen. Then Mr. *Luellin*, impatient to

know where she was, interrupted him, asking to see her. ‘ Are you
 ‘ then, said Mr, *Hide*, the happy
 ‘ Man to whom *Belinda* is Wife?
 ‘ Why do you ask me for her? I
 ‘ sent her home to you three Days
 ‘ since, in your own Coach, guarded
 ‘ by three of my Servants, not being
 ‘ able to persuade her to stay here,
 ‘ till I was either dead, or able to
 ‘ see her Home myself.’ At these
 Words Mr. *Luellin* was Thunder-
 struck; he looked on the Lord——
 ‘ Am I then, said he, born to lose
 ‘ her? What can become of her
 ‘ now?’ “ Doubt not, said the
 “ young Gentleman, Heaven will
 “ preserve her; such Perfection,
 “ such Virtue and Beauty, Angels
 “ attend upon: I am undone, I am
 “ undone for ever by the Sight of
 “ her, before I knew she was ano-
 “ ther’s: I adored her, and die a
 “ Victim to her Charms: Her Ver-
 “ tue I never attempted, but hon-
 “ oured

"oured and protected her; hoping
 "to die respected of her: And
 "though it was worse than Death
 "to loose the Sight of her, yet I
 "consented to our Separation, and
 "sent her away; since which I find
 "my Illness encreased, and hope
 "my End is at Hand." Mr. *Luellin*
 looked upon him with Jealousy and
 Rage: "Is *Belinda*, said he, so un-
 fortunate as to raise me a Rival in
 every Man of Worth that see her:
 Why did she not rather die in the
 Retreat I found her? Let me but
 find her once again and she shall
 never quit my Sight; I'll guard
 and keep her with such Care, that
 all my lustful Sex shall never be
 able to seduce or steal her from me."
 Here the old Lord interposed, "My
 Friend and Kinsman, said he, you
 wrong your Lady and my Son;
 why do you rave? Has he not
 done nobly by you? If he loved
 her before he knew that she was

' pre-engaged, it was no Crime but
 ' his Misfortune; and his honoura-
 ' ble Treatment of her since, renders
 ' him highly deserving your Com-
 ' passion and Esteem. Come let us
 ' wisely search for her, and return
 ' to your Home, where she, by this
 ' Time, may be arrived. Come,
 ' my Son, vanquish the Frailty of
 ' your Mind, and then your Body
 ' will recover: *Belinda* has a Sister,
 ' fair as herself; a Horse-Litter shall
 ' be provided to carry you with us
 ' to *Swansey*, there Company, and
 ' the lovely *Isabella*, will, I hope,
 ' complete your Cure, and make
 ' you happy.' All Things were
 strait got ready for their Return thi-
 ther, where being arrived, there was
 no News of *Belinda*. And now we
 shall leave them to go in search of
 her, and give an Account of what
 had happened to her,

C H A P. XVI.

*Relating Belinda's Fall into the Hands
of Robbers, and her Escape from
them.*

BELINDA being on the Road with her Attendants, about ten Miles from Mr. *Hide's*, the Coach going gently over a dangerous Mountain, was met, and set upon by a Band of ten Robbers, who stopped the Coach, and killed one of the Servants and two of the Horses; took the other two Servants, whom they bound Hand and Foot; they pulled *Belinda* out of the Coach, and searching that, found the Sum of 1490*l.* in Gold, *Belinda* having used only 10*l.* she had given Mr. *Hide's* Servants and the Clowns that rescued her. There was one amongst the Thieves that seemed to be much respected by, and commanded the rest.

rest. He put *Belinda* into the Coach again, and going into it himself, bid her be silent, and no Harm should come to her. One of the Thieves got up into the Coach-Box, and with the four remaining Horses drove the Coach down the Mountain into a deep Valley; then he drove to a Wood, about two Miles from that Place, and being entered into the thickest Part of it, they stopped, took the Horses out, and left the Coach: The Captain leading Mrs. *Luellin*, they came to an old ruined Stone Building, where an old Church was remaining, and part of the House.

Here these Robbers lived, it being a Place desolate of all Inhabitants, and long since abandoned: Here they locked the two Servants they had taken Prisoners into a Room, and then pulling off their Vizards they saluted Mrs. *Luellin*, and told her she was welcome: But, good Heavens! what a Surprize was she under

under when she shaw the Captain of
the Robber's Face, and knew him to
be a young Gentleman whom she
had once seen at Mr. *Hide's* with
Letters, and had been by him caref-
sed in an extraordinary Manner; he
soon perceived she knew him. ' Ma-
' dam, said he, you will not be half
' so much surprized as now seem to
' be, when I tell you that I no
' sooner saw you at Mr. *Hide's*, but
' I loved you, I am a Man nobly
' born, but unfortunate: We are
' all Gentlemen, most of us out-
' lawed, except three really Thieves
' whom we are joined with. We
' have for our Royal Master's and
' Religion's Sake been ruined; our
' Estates, or our Fathers, which
' was our Birth-right, confiscated:
' We have tried to get our Bread a-
' broad; but, like the poor Cavaliers,
' were looked on as burthensome
' wherever we came. Thus made
' desperate, since *Lewis* the Four-
' tenth

'teenth died, we returned to *Eng-*
 'land; we had most of us a Being
 'when first we came, but our
 'Friends are since impoverished;
 'our Spirits are great, therefore we
 'have chosen this desperate Way to
 'maintain ourselves. At the harm-
 'less Country People's, where we
 'lodge in Couples, we pass for
 'Jacobites and honest Tories, great
 'Men disguised, &c. And when
 'we have got a good Booty, and
 'are flush of Money, they imagine
 'we have received Supplies from a-
 'broad. News we often do indeed
 'receive from foreign Parts, but
 'Money never. We never mur-
 'der any Man, or rob a poor Tra-
 'veller: We hold Correspondence
 'with some Servant or other in
 'every Gentleman's Family in the
 'Country, and seldom miss of In-
 'telligence where great Sums of
 'Money are stirring. This Place is
 'our Rendezvous, here we divide
 'our

‘ our Plynder, and then we sepe-
‘ rate. You see, Madam, the Con-
‘ fidence I repose in you: I believe
‘ you are a Lady of Quality: I ad-
‘ mire your Person: I am not your
‘ inferior in Birth, and therefore,
‘ since I have purchased you with
‘ the Hazard of my Life, hope you
‘ will not grant me the Possession of
‘ your Person with Reluctance; I
‘ will maintain you nobly, and run
‘ all Dangers to preserve, provide
‘ for, and please you.’

Here one of his Companions en-
tered, saying, ‘ Sir, Dinner is ready.’
He took her by the Hand, she not
daring to resist, and led her to a large
Room, where was a Table spread,
and great Store of cold Meats, with
plenty of Wine: She was placed by
the Captain at the upper End. and
now he and his Companions gave a
loose to Joy; Mirth and Good-hu-
mour reigned, *Belinda* could not eat,
her Soul was filled with all the dread-
ful

ful Imaginations of Ruin and Misery; but after they had eaten plentifully, they all withdrew to Sleep, and she and the Captain were left alone; he pressed her earnestly to yield to him, but she refused him with such soft Words and Resolution, that he forbore to treat her rudely, trying to win her to his Embraces gently; for tho' Necessity had made him a Robber, yet it could not make him a Brute; he had been well born and educated, and retained some Remains of Honour. At Night he left her there, and went out with his Band, leaving with her two Women, who were in Appearance Servants to them: To these she addressed herself, saying, ' You are Women, your
' Hearts must be tender and pitiful?
' I am a Wife brought hither by
' Misfortune, torn from a fond Husband, and a doating Mother. Oh!
' help me in this great Distress, assist
' me to escape, and bring me to
' them,

‘ them, and you shall be rewarded
‘ to your Satisfaction.’ The eldest
of the two replied, ‘ Madam, we
‘ gladly would, but cannot serve you
‘ we are Strangers in this Place like
‘ you; we were brought here by
‘ Force, blindfold, and taken far
‘ from hence; ’tis now eight Months
‘ since we were brought to this sad
‘ Place. Here we have been ruined,
‘ and are made subservient to the
‘ Lust and Humour of these despe-
‘ rate Men; we both were Gentle-
‘ women born in *France*, tho’ we
‘ can speak *English*: This is my
‘ Niece, I was a single Woman, had
‘ no Relation whom I thought so
‘ well deserved my Love as she. I
‘ had a handsome Fortune, and we
‘ lived together; and having some
‘ Business to go for *England*, I took
‘ her with me: We took along with
‘ us our Necklaces, Rings, Cloaths,
‘ and what we had most valuable to
‘ appear in, with Money to defray

L

‘ our

‘ our Charges. The Vessel we came
 ‘ over in was bound to *Southampton*,
 ‘ but a Storm drove us upon this
 ‘ Coast: We got into *Swansey*, and
 ‘ from thence hired Horses to carry
 ‘ us cross the Countries thither, with
 ‘ a Guide. In the Way we were
 ‘ set upon by this Band of Robbers;
 ‘ they stopped us, took us off our
 ‘ Horses, carried us, our Boxes, and
 ‘ all off along with them, and brought
 ‘ us to this Place. Our Guide they
 ‘ bound and left behind, and now
 ‘ threaten us with Death if we at-
 ‘ tempt to leave them. Alas! we
 ‘ know not where to fly to, this
 ‘ Place is destitute of all Inhabitants;
 ‘ besides, some of our Band are al-
 ‘ ways watching near this Wood:
 ‘ We are Strangers to this Country,
 ‘ have no Friends here to make In-
 ‘ quiry after us: We came only to
 ‘ trade, which I often did, and so
 ‘ learned *English*, and now despair
 ‘ of ever seeing our native Land and
 ‘ Friends again.’

This

This Story nearly touched Mrs. *Luellin's* Heart. 'Find a Way for our Escape, said she, and I will procure your safe Return to *France*.' Here she related to them all her own Adventures at which they seemed astonished; but when she named her Father and Mother, they fell to weeping and embracing her Knees, declared that they had been Servants to her Grandfather the Governor of *Normandy*, the eldest having been many Years House-keeper to her Grand-mother the Marchioness of *Maintenon*. 'My dear Lady, said she, what would I refuse to do to serve you? I will set you at Liberty or die in the Attempt.' Here they consulted what to do, Mrs. *Luellin* resolving not to stay there all that Night, fearing the Men's return. There was in the Chapel many Disguises, with which the Robbers used to conceal themselves; of these they chose three, which
were

were old ragged Coats, Shoes, Hats, &c. being Beggars Habits; they took Soot and Grease, and made an odd Kind of Pomatum to rub their Faces and Hands; and thus accounted, with long Sticks in their Hands; they ventured into the Wood, leaving the dismal Dwelling. They went on, trembling at every Noise or Rustling of the Trees, seeking a Path, but could discover none: They still went forward, they had passed through the Wood, and then they discovered nothing but dreadful high barren Mountains and lonely Valleys, dangerous to pass, they had no Food with them, nor any Money, for the Robbers never left that behind them in that Place.

Thus they wandered over the Mountains till Night approached, weary and faint for want of Food; and when it grew dark they could go no farther; back they neither dared, nor would return. *Belinda* had a
Soul

Soul too noble to submit to gratify a
Villian's Lust. ' Come my Com-
' panions, said she, let us lie down
' on the cold Earth, and trust that
' Providence that still preserves those
' that put their Confidence in it :
' 'tis better far to perish here, than
' live in Infamy and Misery; 'tis
' true, our Bodies are enfeebled by
' the Want of Substenance but Sleep
' will refresh our tired Spirits, and
' enable us to prosecute our Journey;
' recommend yourselves to God, his
' Power is All-sufficient, and when
' human Means are wanting, can
' supply our Wants by Miracle.'
Here she fell upon her Knees, and
cried, ' My God, encrease my
' Faith, pity our Distress, and send
' us Help : But if thou hast decreed
' us to die in this Place support us
' under the mighty Trial, and give
' us Grace to be entirely resigned to
' thy Will, and send thy Angels to
' receive our Souls.' Her Compa-

nions remained silent, admiring the Constancy of *Belinda*, who seemed then scarce fifteen; they laid down and slept profoundly, Weariness making them rest, tho' under the more racking Apprehensions of the greatest Dangers. At break of Day they arose, but knew not which Way to go.

Thus they wandred two Nights and Days, and in the Evening they discovered, at a considerable Distance a small Town; when they thought they were almost there, they met with the River *Wie*; they saw no Bridge or Boat, and it was impossible for them to get over it on Foot. They went as far as they were able by the River-side, ready to sink down at every Step; when a Fisherman brought his Nets down to dry them on the Shore; and he and his Boy helped them into his Boat, in which he carried them to his Cottage, where they were kindly received
by

by his Wife; the good Woman warmed a Bed, and got them into it, giving them good hot Broth. And now being much refreshed, *Belinda* told her who she was, and that she lived at *Swansey*. 'Alas! Madam,' said the good Woman, you are a great Way from Home, but I will send my Husband thither, to give your Friends Notice.' The next Morning the Fisherman set out for *Swansey*, and *Belinda* fell very sick; *Lesbia* and *Magdelaine* recovered soon but she remained so weak, that she could not walk,



CHAI

C H A P. XVII.

In which Mr. Hide and Isabella are brought acquainted. Belinda returns home and raiseth Peace and Joy to the Family.

MR. Luellin, the Lord—— and his Son, being arrived at *Swansey* and finding no News of *Belinda*, they took all the Methods possible to find her out, but in vain. Mr. *Hide* was so weak that he could not accompany his Father and Kinsman, who rid out every Day in search of *Belinda*; the Marquis, who could not part one Hour from his dear Lady, and the lovely *Isabella*, kept him Company: Her Charms soon touched his Soul, and he at last began to imagine, that if *Belinda* was found again, and happy, he could be so with her Sister. *Isabella*, grew insensibly to be fond of him, her
Virgin

Virgin Heart that never felt Love's Flame before, was warmed, and every Thing he did was charming in her Eyes: he now was able to walk into the Garden, and tho' very weak, was well bred, obliging, gay, and entertaining. The Marquis was extreme fond of him, and was pleased to see the growing Affection betwixt Mr. *Hide* and *Isabella*; nothing was wanting but *Belinda's* Presence to make this Family completely happy: and now the fortunate Moment came, they so much wished for; the Fisherman arrived, and gave an Account of her being at his House with two Friends, with the Manner of their coming thither: But good Heavens! what Transports filled Mr. *Luellin's* and her Mother's Soul? It was late at Night when the News was brought, and impossible to travel by reason of the Snow and Darkness, yet it was with Difficulty that the Marquis restrained his Son from venturing.

In

In the Morning they set out at the break of Day, the Marquis, Lord, and Mr. *Luellin*, in the Coach and Six, with five Servants, and the Fisherman well Horfed: The old Lady would fain have gone, but her Weakness was such, that she, Mr. *Hide* and *Isabella*, were constrained to stay at Home. In three Days Mr. *Luellin* and the rest arrived at the Cottage, where he was blessed with the Sight of his dear *Belinda*; she was in Bed, very weak, but when she heard his Voice, she started up, and when he came to the Bed-side, threw her Arms about his Neck, and both remained silent for some Moments, whilst Tears of Joy shewed their Affection: then he recovering, said a thousand tender Things, such as fully expressed his Fondness. Her Father next embraced her, saying, ' See me, *Belinda*, your transport-
' ed Father, who never saw a Day
' like this! now my God has crown'd
my

‘ my Age with Blessings, exceeding
‘ Expectation, and almost Belief.
‘ What Thanks are we obliged to
‘ render our Creator, for the mighty
‘ Blessings he has this Day bestowed
‘ upon us?’ She bowed, but being
faint, could scarce reply, when Mr.
Luellin, looking tenderly upon her,
said, ‘ Alas! my *Belinda*, may I
‘ hope that I shall sleep again within
‘ those Arms? Has no vile Ravisher
‘ usurped my Right, and forced you
‘ to his hated Bed! Has not that
‘ lovely Body been polluted with his
‘ cursed Embraces? tho’ I believe
‘ your Mind still pure, and that your
‘ Soul loathed and abhorred the
‘ Thought; yet forgive me, if I
‘ tremble at the dreadful Idea of so
‘ cursed an Act, and long to know
‘ the Truth.’ *Belinda* lifting up her
Eyes, looked on him with Disdain;
‘ Are you my Husband! she cried.
‘ Do you know me, and can you
‘ believe me capable of so base a
‘ Crime

‘ Crime, as yielding up my Honour
 ‘ to a Ravisher! No, I would have
 ‘ preferred the cruelest Death to In-
 ‘ famy; or, if by Force compelled,
 ‘ would not have let the impious
 ‘ Villian out live his Crime; believe
 ‘ me I am as innocent as when you
 ‘ took me first a Virgin to your Bed,
 ‘ and your Suspicions are unkind.’
 Here she fainted, he held her in his
 Arms, asked Pardon for his Rashness,
 and with frevent Kisses sealed his
 Peace upon her Lips and Hands.
 And now they thought of removing
 her to *Swansey*: This was a Place
 not fit for her to stay in, Physicians,
 and all Things wanting, could not
 here be had. He had forgot to bring
 Cloaths and Linnen thither, and till
 she was to rise, took no Notice of
 her’s and her Companions Habits;
 but when he saw *Lisbia* bring her
 Beggar’s Coat, and other Accoutre-
 ments, he, and the Marquis, and
 the Lord——, were much sur-
 prized

prized and diverted; and indeed it was a pleasant Sight to see her, and her Female Attendants, so dressed, enter the Coach.

And now nothing remained but to reward the honest Fisherman and his Wife; Mr. *Luellin* gave them ten Pieces of Gold, a Sum they had never been Masters of before in their whole Lives; he told them if they would come to *Swansey*, he would give them a House to live in. They returned him Thanks, but said they had lived in that Cottage thirty odd Years, and had rather continue there; but if he would give their Boy *Jack* a new Fishing-boat against he was married, which was to be shortly, they would be bound to pray for him to their Lives End. He agreed to their Request, bidding the Fisherman come to *Swansey*, and choose such a one as he best liked, and he would pay for it: So they parted thence, and in three Days came in

M

Safety

Safety to *Swansey*, where *Belinda* was received with excessive Joy by her Mother, and the rest. *Isabella* admired her Sister's Beauty, tho' somewhat changed by Sickness, when she saw her dressed in her own Cloaths. Habits were given to the Women her Attendants, and none but Mr. *Hide* feared to look upon her; she turned towards him smiling, ' My generous Lover and ' Friend, said she, believe me, your ' Treatment of me was so generous ' and noble, that had I not been ' disposed off, nor known Mr. *Luel-* ' *lin* before, I declare that Mr. *Hide* ' should have had the first Place in ' my Esteem: but here is another ' to be disposed of, my charming ' Sister, who has, in my Eyes, superior Charms; give her that Heart ' which I must now refuse, and ' make her happy. Speak, my dear ' Sister, said she, shall he be heard? ' and do you think him worthy your ' Love.

‘ Love?’ *Isabella* blushed, and the Marchioness answered. ‘ Her Father and I approving it, I dare answer for my dear *Isabella*, she will be guided by us.’ Mr. *Hide* made a low Bow. ‘ Lord, said he, may I presume to hope so great an Honour as seems here designed me?’ ‘ You may, answered the Marquis, ‘ I shall be proud to call you Son.’ From this Hour Mr. *Hide* paid his Addresses to *Isabella*, and Content reigned in every Face, and now *Belinda* gave an Account of all that had happened to her, from her being taken by the Robbers, to her Arrival at the Fisherman’s.



C H A P. XVIII.

The despersing of the Band of Robbers.

TWO Days after her return home the two poor Servants that were taken by the Thieves with her, and left locked up in a Room, when she fled from the ruinous House in the Wood, came to *Swansey*, and told, how having found themselves there alone, and hearing nobody stir, or come to relieve them for two Days and a Night, they resolved to force their Way out, at all Adventures; and searching about to find the best Place to make their Escape at, one of them pulled a great Stone out of the Wall, at which they both crept out; they saw nobody, and rambled all about the House, and ruined Church: There they found several Boxes and Trunks, but most of them empty: Examining more curi-

curiously, they found a Trap-door in the Chancel, which, lifting up, they ventured to go into a Vault, where was much Treasure, as Plate, Jewels and Cloaths; they took as much as they could well carry in their Pockets, and departed, going over the Mountains till they thought they were safe; and there they lay that Night. The next Day, knowing the Country, they went home to their Master, Mr. *Hide's* House, and from thence to *Swansey*, to give him an Account of all.

Upon this Information, and Mrs. *Luellin's*, Mr. *Luellin* resolved to send to the High-Sheriff, and raise the Country to apprehend this Gang of Thieves; but *Belinda* entreated him to spare the Captain of the Robbers.

According to his Desire, the Sheriff gave Orders, and Mr. *Luellin* heading the Hue-and-Cry, Mr. *Hide's* Servants guiding them, they went

directly to the Wood, where they apprehended two of the meanest of the Crew, that is, two real Thieves; who informed them, that the whole Band returning thither two Days after *Belinda's* Escape thence, and finding the two Women, and Mr. *Hide's* two Servants gone, they feared being discovered, and had therefore changed their Lodgings, and retired to a Place more secret, and almost impossible to be discovered taking part of their Treasure with them, and were resolved to go off to Sea, if they were too closely pursued to live longer there; and had left them behind to give Intelligence. They said moreover, that they had looked narrowly upon most of the Mountains for *Belinda* and the two Women, and missing them, hoped they had perished in some of the dismal Valleys, or tumbled down from some Precipice, and killed themselves. ' Our Captain, indeed, said

' one

‘ one of them, is a brave Gentleman,
‘ and stormed dreadfully at us, say-
‘ ing, he would give his Life will-
‘ lingly to save the Lady, and that
‘ if we did not find and bring her
‘ back, he would kill us: Which
‘ we little regarded; for tho’ we let
‘ him at present head us, and com-
‘ mand, ’tis only because he is boldest,
‘ and will venture where we don’t
‘ care to go : but should we be taken
‘ and imprisoned, we should not
‘ scruple to hang him, or any of his
‘ Friends, to save ourselves.’ ‘ Vil-
‘ lains that you are, cried Mr. *Luel-*
‘ *lin*, if possible, I will save him and
‘ hang you.’ They were pinion’d,
and the House and Church searched
narrowly, where some Plate and
Cloaths were found, and afterwards
put into the Sheriff’s Hands, to be
restored to the Owners upon public
Notice given, and their appearing;
and after much search, being able to
discover no more of the Thieves, Mr.

Luellin

Luellin dismissed the Assistants and returned home, the two Thieves being first lodged in the County Goal. Some Days after a Man brought a Letter directed to the *French* Marquis, Monsieur de *Maintenon*; from the Captain of the Robbers, offering to surrender himself, at which the Marquis was much surprized, knowing the Gentleman very well: He asked Mr. *Luellin*, his Lady, and the Lord's——Advice; they all agreed, that they would, if possible, save him and the rest. The next Day the Captain of the Robbers came; and Mr. *Hide* embraced him, and so did the Marquis, Mr. *Luellin*, and Lord——; they had the Diversion of his relating to them all his dangerous and bold Adventures, he lay there that Night, next Morning Mr. *Luellin* went to the Port and hired a Vessel to carry him and his Companions to *Spain*, the Marquis giving him Letters of
Recom-

Recommendation to some great Men there, who were his Friends. He made him deliver up all the Things of Value he had left in his Hands, of his Robberies, and part of Mr. *Luellin's* Money, and gave him Bills for a handsome Sum of Money to support him and his Friends, till they could be provided for in the Army, which the Marquis gave out of his own Pocket, with some Gold for their present Occasion, till they came to *Barcelona*, the Bill being drawn on a Merchant there, with whom he held a Correspondence.

The rest of the unfortunuate Gentlemen, who, by their Captain's Advice were all near at hand, went on board the Vessel, to which the Marquis, Mr. *Luellin*, Lord——, and Mr. *Hide*, went with the Captain, and there they supped merrily, and parted; the Marquis and his Son, Lord—— and Mr. *Hide*, returning home. Next Morning the
Ship

Ship sailed with a fair Wind, and
Wales was delivered from a Band of
 'Gentlemen Thieves.'



C H A P.

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C H A P. XIX.

*Containing Mr. Hide's Marriage
with Isabella; and a Period to this
History.*

AND now nothing remained to complete this Family's Felicity, but *Isabella's* Marriage with *Mr. Hide*, which in some Days after was consummated; this Wedding was very splendid, all Sorts of innocent Diversion, as Dancing, Feasting, and musical Entertainment, completed the Festival. The Country People had their Share in it, and much pleased the Ladies with their odd Dancing and Songs: The *Welch* Harpers came from all Parts of the Country, Blind and Lame, and the Hills eccho'd with the trembling Harps. The Marquis, who had heard the most harmonious Concerts of Musick in *Rome* or *France*, confessed

fessed he had heard nothing more
 diverting, or seen an Entertainment
 where there was less Expence, or
 more true Mirth. The Marquis and
 his Lady resolved to continue here
 till Mrs. *Luellin* was brought to Bed,
 which she was in the *March* follow-
 ing, on the 17th of which she was
 happily delivered of a Son. After
 she was up again, the Marquis thought
 of returning to *France* with his Lady,
 but desired he might have his little
 Grandson and his Nurse with him;
 the Lord—— and Mr. *Hide* like-
 wise resolving to go with him, and
 settle there, sold their Estates. Mr.
Luellin and *Belinda* offered to ac-
 company their Father and Mother,
 and spend the Summer in *Normandy*.
 And now it being the Year 1718, on
 the 2d of *May* they went on board a
 Ship they had hired to carry them,
 and arrived safe on the 9th in the
 Evening at *St. Maloes*, from whence
 they set out for *Coutance*, and in a
 few

few Days arrived at the Marquiss's Seat, where they were entertained nobly. The two *French Women*, *Lisbia* and *Magdalaine*, went joyfully to their Home, returning many Thanks to the Marquis and Ladies. Mr. *Luellin* and his Lady found *France* so charming that they continue their.

Thus Providence, with unexpected Accidents, tries Men's Faith, frustrates their Designs, and leads them through a Series of Misfortunes, to manifest its Power in their Deliverance; confounding the Atheist, and convincing the Libertine, that there is a just God, who rewards Virtue and punishes Vice. So wonderful are the Ways of God, so boundless is his Power, that none can despair who believe in him. You see he can give Food upon the barren Mountain, and prevent the bold Ravisher from accomplishing his wicked Design:

N

But

But Virtue was *Belinda's* Armour,
and Providence her Defender. These
Trials did but improve her Virtues,
and encrease her Faith,



RULES and MAXIMS for promoting
*matrimonial happiness, addressed to
 all widowers, husbands and batche-
 lers, in England.*

AS man was appointed by God, to be Lord of the Creation, he should govern with a gentle sway, and not act the part of a tyrant to his wife, children or servants; for he who resolves to be feared, cannot expect to be loved.

As the woman is deemed the weaker vessel, the man should give grains of allowance for her frailties; and if she should appear to him, from a mistaken notion, to be too warm in a wrong cause, add not fuel to the fire, by a spirit of contradiction, but let her passions subside before you attempt to convince her of her error, and then do it with coolness and deliberation.

Let the husband give his company to his wife at his meals, and other times, as often as his business will permit, and consult her upon all necessary occasions, as his real friend; by observing such a conduct, he will be better enabled to go through the various incidents of human life, and greatly lessen his cares and anxieties.

Whether his wife be in sickness or in health, remember it is his duty to love and to cherish her, even though she may not altogether answer his most sanguine expectations; and this done, no doubt will remain, but that she will chearfully obey so endearing husband.

In a word, the likeliest way for a man to obtain a good wife, or keep her so, is to be good himself.



T H E



T H E
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